

# ILLUSTRATED TIMES

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No. 111.—VOL. 4.

LONDON, SATURDAY, JUNE 6, 1857.

PRICE 2½D.—STAMPED, 3½D.

## TOPICS OF THE DAY.

THE hot part of the year is coming on, and politics are becoming more and more a matter of indifference. It will prove, we can all see now, an unfruitful session. The Parliament has turned out as docile as we predicted. Containing a number of provincial members new to the political world, and with no opposition strong enough to make any serious head against Government, it contents itself with obeying the Premier, who will certainly not overwork it. Lord Palmerston enjoys his usual fortune. He will pass a good moderate measure or two—on which we shall be duly congratulated in the Royal Speech—and then he will nurse himself pleasantly through the autumn, and prepare for next year. There is hard work to come off *then*, of course; and profound reflection will be required to prepare the Reform Bill—or, as the cynics say, to prepare for reading it. The cynics hint, indeed, that this last will be the great study of the recess, and certainly, at present, the public shows no inclination to press the subject. We are in a lull again. Mr. Cobden does not want to get into Parliament: Mr. Bright hopes nothing from it. Nobody is eager about public affairs, except gentlemen who are petitioners against returns, and gentlemen who are objected to. We are curious to see the results of these petitions, for a very free use of money unquestionably characterised some of the late elections. And it is desirable, if we are to have a new law, that we should have a batch of fresh evidence about the latest working of the elective system. Mr. Roebuck comes forward, in his old character of censor, to complain of the interference in elections of certain Norfolk peers. This, too, will contribute to our knowledge on the same subject—one on which the House of Commons ought to be sensitive, for it formally condemned the practice complained of generations ago. But tribunes are at a discount just now; and a leaning in favour of all accused persons somehow characterises all our affairs. Mr. Hudson is quite touched at the idea that anybody should have objected to him at Sunderland; and let a vote of money be proposed in Parliament, and you are hooted if you criticise it. Indifference flavoured with cant (and there is no

cant like that of "moderation") is the present tone of public feeling. There is no hard work—no sharp criticism—no bluff earnestness: even our vice is tame and colourless.

One pleasant sign of the day is the total absence of "foreign intelligence." Old Radetzky's health is still a subject on which we have ample details, to be sure; but there is astonishingly little excitement on the Continent. The French elections are coming off; but, as Juvenal says, "There is no fight where you beat and I have only to be beaten;" so there is no election where it depends almost entirely on the authorities whether you elect or no. A journal that writes as if there *was* a real election coming off, receives a hint at once that it is forgetting itself. No real senator could stand. At the election of Popes (at least, so Bayle's story goes), one duty—ever since Pope Joan's time—is to ascertain that your Pope is a *man*. In the case of the elected, under Louis, it is just the other way. They do not want a man, but a lay figure. Meanwhile, commercial difficulties in Paris thicken; and the Emperor gives wonderful balls. The great strength of one kind of Imperialism is its upholstery.

*Apropos* of Imperialism, we see some of our contemporaries hinting that the Russian Archduke was but uncourtously received in England. We ourselves incline to believe so. Surely, it is not like a great country to be sulky with your enemy when the fight is over. Every Englishman who visited Russia after the war met courtesy there. What say the Kars men? We think our public bodies acted but shabbily. What was Sir Charles about? Peel's fault it could not be, for he is out of the Admiralty, and could suggest no banquets or reviews. However, the Grand Duke has much to be obliged to us for: we never touched his Cronstadt fleet! Perhaps he will now think that we ought to have been more forward both in peace and war.

There has been some stir, lately, in one or two domestic matters, in which reform is urgently required; and our *penchant* for domestic reforms is, we hope, known. The medical profession has been stirring about the treatment of its members under the Poor-law system. We heartily hope the public will sympathise with them. Here is the case

of a large body of active, able, bold, and hearty men, employed in attending the poor of the kingdom, and infamously used by parochial duncees, under the influence of the most sordid parsimony. There are three thousand of them, and they have the care of near nine hundred thousand paupers, add an immense—shall we say suffering and degraded?—labouring population. What the work must be many of us know, many can guess, and all—from published accounts—can easily learn. Well, what is the pay?—2s. 9½d. per case of sickness, *minus* the expense of drugs, instruments, horse, tolls, &c., &c. That is the way England pays those who attend the poor. They are petitioning Parliament to help them, and are praying for fixed salaries at a more reasonable average. We hope Parliament will listen to them, and force the Poor-law Board to increase their payment. But we scarcely hope it at present; because Parliament is so indifferent to mere questions of justice and mercy; because the session is waning; and because greediness is one feature in that shopkeeping character which makes itself so strongly felt in our internal affairs. The Poor-law is administered with a view to making poverty miserable and burying it cheap; and with such a theory about the poor, how expect justice for those doctors of the poor?—of one of whom—old Levett—Dr. Johnson says so admirably:—

"In misery's darkest caverns known,  
His ready help was ever nigh,  
Where hopeless anguish pour'd his groan,  
And lonely want retired to die."

The "book-hawking" movement has been also under way again; and the friends of "useful and entertaining periodicals" have been keeping each other's enthusiasm alive. We have before acknowledged the sense of this idea, and contributed to the diffusion of it. We can only renew our caution against a too large "Exeter Hall" element in it; for let the professedly "serious" folks say what they like, the mass of the people have as much objection to being bored as their betters, and will not read mere grave didactic stuff written "down" to them. If a solemn lord or parson means to diffuse his own lucu-



ARRIVAL AT THE LYONS RAILWAY STATION OF THE KING OF BAVARIA, WITH THE EMPEROR AND EMPRESS OF THE FRENCH, FROM FONTAINEBLEAU.





brations, he must pay people for reading them. A slight observation of the way holidays are spent now a-days may easily be made at this season, and ought to convince these wisecracks that something stronger than twaddle is needed to rouse the faculties of people in this hard-working, materialistic age.

We are glad to see that the Commissioners appointed to investigate the subject of Superannuation in the Civil Service have made a report favourable to the claims of civil servants. It is impossible to go into the old story of the wrongs of that class, just now; it is incredible to the country that it should be an old story; but we read with pleasure that "the salaries of the civil servants are to be really what they purport to be;" or, in plain English, that the Commissioners recommend the abolition of an old sham and fraud. There are many such extant in all departments of our life just now: multifarious are the "recommendations" of commissioners public and private—appointed and spontaneous. The age, too, so far from being jealous of change, is open and willing to consider any change whatever;—yet, somehow, our reforms advance but slowly, and we cannot say we are particularly hopeful about them at the present time.

#### THE KING OF BAVARIA IN FRANCE.

THE King of Bavaria seems to be redeeming the credit of Royal visitors to France. His "visits to remarkable places" exhibit more the spirit of kindly interest than of selfish investigation; and moreover, his Majesty deigns to be entertained whenever he is fitted. He even accepts invitations to dine with the Ministers of State, and, as he has begun, will very probably run the round of the whole Cabinet. Old sticklers for etiquette among the diplomatic corps seem horrified at his Majesty condescending to take his commons with any one under the rank of an Imperial Prince; but, says a correspondent of the "Times," perpetrating a pun which will probably lead to his being conducted across the frontier, the King does not seem to mind the comments, provided the commons are good.

A few evenings since, his Majesty was entertained at a ball at the Hotel de Ville, where about six thousand persons congregated. The affair was altogether most brilliant, and the heartiness with which his Majesty entered into the spirit of the entertainment, acted upon the whole assembly in the happiest manner. It was soon apparent that the king looked on dancing in a very conscientious manner, as he did not content himself with merely walking listlessly through a quadrille, as "a trick of custom," but really danced in the real meaning of the word, and, what is more, danced gracefully and well. The result was, that all the other persons were obliged to throw a little life into their movements; and listlessness everywhere disappeared.

The King, who rarely sat down, appeared to afford a pleasurable object to the contemplation of the ladies, who crowded about him, it is said—but it must be mere vulgarity to speak so of ladies—with more curiosity than politeness. They certainly seemed to distress a Bavarian officer, who became literally hemmed in by far-expecting clouds of silk and maulin. He bore his captivity with great patience, but it was thought at one time that he would have had to cut his way out.

The King has explored the picture gallery of Versailles and the Luxembourg, has visited the Queen Christina at Malmaison, and has dined with Count Walewski. A grand cavalry review was held in his honour on the race course at Longchamps on Tuesday. His Majesty will remain in Paris till the 12th instant.

### Foreign Intelligence.

#### FRANCE.

THE Legislative corps has been dissolved; the new elections are to take place on the 21st of June. There is to be one deputy for every 35,000 electors; but by departments in which the electors number more than 17,500, an additional deputy is to be named. But though the election is to be made by universal suffrage, the ballot, and all the machinery of freedom, the Government nevertheless takes the liberty of naming the candidates which should be returned. A list of these has been sent to all the Prefects—the roll comprising nearly all the members of the late doctile Assembly. Those who are omitted from the list were probably not the most docile. A circular issued from the Home Office, explicitly declares that as the Government proposes the laws to the Deputies, it will propose candidates to the electors, and these will then make their choice. Under such circumstances—the Government proposing the laws, and to reality naming the Deputies—the trouble of election seems to be altogether superfluous. The Republican party, however, seems to have decided on putting forth a certain number of candidates; among these are General Cavaignac, MM. Havin, Goucheux, Marie, Bethmont, Carot, Gervais, and Garnier Pages. It is not said whether all or any will, in case of election, take the oath of allegiance to the Emperor.

Intelligence has been received in Paris from Algiers of a brilliant affair on the 24th inst., against Beni-Raten. All the positions were carried by the French troops. The strength of the French army (26,000 men) rendered this result inevitable.

Baron Gros and the whole of the mission for China left Toulon on the 27th. The French naval forces intended for the Chinese waters will follow. The trial of the members of the secret society, called the Francs Juges, has been concluded. Thirty-four of the accused were sentenced to imprisonment for various terms and to fines, and six were acquitted.

#### SPAIN.

New difficulties seem to have arisen in the negotiations on the Mexican question, in spite of the united efforts of Lord Howden and the Marquis of Turbot. The Mexican question comprises the claims of certain bondholders in the Republic, which are of old standing, and the satisfaction demanded by Spain for the outrages and murders perpetrated on Spanish subjects resident in the Mexican territory.

#### AUSTRIA.

THE little Archduchess Sophia died at Buda on the evening of the 29th ult. Their Majesties were expected at Vienna on Saturday. The Emperor has just issued a supplement to his decree of the 12th of July, 1856, by which property that had been confiscated as a consequence of the sentence of a military court, was returned to several persons who were concerned in the rebellion in the kingdom of Hungary and in the Grand Principality of Transylvania in 1848 and 1849. He now ordains that the confiscated property in the hands of the State shall be delivered to the following persons:—1. All those non-military individuals who were guilty of high treason during the above-mentioned rebellion, or of other offences not mentioned in the autograph letter of May 8, 1857, and who, for the last-mentioned offences, are still in prison, and all those military men who are now in confinement. 2. All those persons who are no longer imprisoned, but whose property is still under confiscation. It is further directed that the net revenue arising from confiscated property which has been received by the State Treasury shall be employed for the benefit of the country and its inhabitants. The Emperor says:—"In regard to those persons who, having been condemned by court-martial, are still fugitives, my legations and consulates have received instructions to accept their petitions for permission to return, for realisation of punishment, and for the restoration of their confiscated property. I, however, reserve to myself the right of determining in how far the conditions of this my act of grace can be applied to those petitions."

#### RUSSIA.

AN important ukase has been signed by the Emperor. After referring to the imperial ukase of the 27th of May, 1856, which granted an amnesty to those Polish emigrants who had acknowledged their errors and applied for leave to return to Poland, the present ukase restores to political emigrants all the rights of which they had been deprived, provided they had taken advantage of the ukase of 1856, and had returned to Poland before the present Emperor's coronation.

#### ITALY.

A NOTIFICATION, dated Ancona, 19th, has been published, announcing the cessation of the state of siege in the Romagna, Ancona, and part of the province of Pesaro, being the only territories where it was still in force. All the prisoners under trial by court-martial are to be delivered up to the civil authorities. Nevertheless, all cases of resistance to the armed force and of offences against the Austrian military, are still to be under the cognizance of the Austrian courts-martial.

The city of Genoa has just escaped a grave danger. The 900 prisoners of the Lagune had planned an attempt to escape, but fortunately the plot was discovered in time. The city was plunged into great consternation by the bare announcement that the prisoners intended making the attempt, as in 1849 a similar coup was effected, and dreadful excesses committed.

The Pope, we hear, appears to have confined himself strictly to the religious objects for which he travels. He has visited Loretto and other holy shrines; he has said masses, and worshipped relics wherever there was anything remarkable on his route; and he has bestowed charity and benedictions with great liberality wherever he has gone; but as yet he does not seem to have interested himself in the temporal welfare of those parts of his dominions through which he has passed. Perhaps, however, the Holy Father is "taking notes," and if so, it will be of immense service for the world at large if he will some day "print them."

#### TURKEY AND THE EAST.

ACCOUNTS from Constantinople, bearing date May 21, mention the continuance of attacks on foreigners in that capital. The Porte had again conferred with the ambassadors on the subject, and requested them to name delegates to advise with the Divan as to the best means to be adopted to put an end to this state of things.

The steam-packet *Esperante* ran on shore on the 17th at Gallipoli, but was got off with the assistance of the Austrian Lloyd's steamers. M. Thouvenel has demanded from the Porte the dismissal of the Kaimakan of Moldavia.

Lord Stratford de Redcliffe has sent the English Consul for Bosnia on a visit to Albania and Montenegro.

Hairi Effendi, formerly treasurer for Bulgaria, has been arrested on the charge of embezzling thirty-five million piastres (about £280,000), and has been sent to Constantinople for trial; he has made important confessions. Said Pacha, formerly governor of Roustchuk, is under surveillance, and his administrative acts are being looked into.

#### AMERICA.

FROM America we do not learn that any definite step has been taken in the matter of the Dallas-Clarendon treaty. There were many rumours, but none sufficiently reliable to repeat.

Lord Napier, it was said, had again called the attention of the American Government to the claim of certain British subjects for indemnity for losses at Greytown.

A fearful riot occurred at Louisville on the 14th ult. Four negroes accused of murdering the Joyce family some months since, were acquitted. One of them turned States' evidence, but his testimony was not legal or corroborated. There was considerable excitement about the court-house during the trial. About dark a mob broke into the court-house, and got a cannon, which they placed in front of the jail. Several shots were fired by the mob and from the jail. The jailor, fearing the escape of the prisoners, formally surrendered two of them, who were hung by the mob; the third cut his throat with a razor; but the negro who turned States' evidence was unharmed. The other negro implicated in the Joyce murder was hung by the mob next night.

The erection of the Isthmus of Panama, now an integral portion of New Granada, into an independent state, is in fair way of arrangement, on these bases:—The state to be free for the commerce of all nations, under the guarantee and protection of Great Britain, France, America, and Sardinia; the islands on both oceans, at present belonging to New Granada, including those of San Andres and others, to form part of the new state; the contracting Powers to have liberty to transport their mails over the railroad or any other inter-oceanic route as follows:—New Granada without paying anything either to the state or to the railroad company, England and the United States to pay 50,000 dollars a year each to the state, and France and Sardinia 25,000 dollars each, besides paying to the railroad company ten cents a pound for letters and one cent a pound for newspapers; the railroad company to pay also 50,000 dollars a year to the State of Panama.

It was rumoured that General Walker had escaped from Nicaragua, and had taken refuge in some town on the Pacific. Walker's party was reduced to 320 men. The allied forces mustered 2,500 men, which number was daily increasing.

A filibuster expedition to Sonora has been defeated, and the leader shot. It has been decided by the United States Government to take vigorous measures against Utah. Troops in large numbers are to be sent there. Meanwhile, the Mormons are taking energetic measures to fight or fly, as the case may be. The immorality of this people seems to be fast arriving at a climax. A new doctrine had been practically introduced into the Mormon creed, and was expected soon to be promulgated—to wit, that of furnishing proxies to supply the place of husbands to wives of missionaries absent on foreign service. The language of the elders and bishops in the pulpit was always indecent, and is now audaciously obscene.

#### INDIA.

THE news from India is happily not of an exciting nature. A sepoy of the 34th, who wounded Lieutenant Baugh had been hanged; and the Jemadar of the guard had been similarly punished. The charge against the latter was, that while officer of the guard, at the time that the sepoy made the attack, he refused to allow any of the men to interfere; further, with having spread rebellion in the lines of the 34th Native Infantry regiment, by telling the men of that corps that if any of them brought him one of the new cartridges he would cut his head off; also, for having warned the men of the 34th Native Infantry to hold themselves in readiness for a general revolt on the night of Hodder. Lastly, with having held a meeting in his own quarters for the purpose of organising a general rising of the sepoys against government. The Jemadar hoped for mercy till he was placed beneath the gallows, and then, finding that nothing could change his fate, he addressed his comrades in the following impressive terms:

"Sepoys, listen to me. I have been a traitor to a good government. I am about to be punished for my great sins; I am about to be hanged, and I deserve my punishment. Sepoys, obey your officers, for they are your rightful and just rulers, or else you will, like me, be brought to the gallows. Sepoys, obey your officers; listen to them, and not to evil advisers—I listened to evil advisers, and you see what I am come to. I lead upon God to bless the Governor-General, and all the great gentlemen, the general, and all the noble lords (gentlemen) here present."

An outbreak among the sepoys at Barrackpore to prevent these executions was thought possible, and preparations were accordingly made; but everything passed off quietly.

A postscript of the "Daily Gazette" of the 18th of April, has the following:—"We regret to be informed by telegraph that bad symptoms have manifested themselves at Umbala. The native troops have been ordered to fire when they consider the objectionable cartridges to be wrong. The empty European barracks were burnt down at nine last night, and the native infantry hospital, a mile distant, three hours after."

The Oude bandit, Fuzil Ali, who surprised Mr. Bollen, has met with his deserts. Lieut. Clarke, of the 3rd Regiment of Oude Irregular Infantry, on the evening of the 7th of April, marched with forty men across the Nepal frontier, through the dense jungle which constitutes the boundary, and surprised Fuzil Ali and his band in a grove of trees. The men fought desperately, Lieut. Clarke having one man killed and four wounded out of his small party. Fuzil Ali, two of his brothers, and two others of the gang, were killed. Lieut. Clarke was himself slightly wounded.

A suttee had occurred at the village of Vang in Kutch. Bhunsallee Sango, twenty-five years of age, having died, his mother, sixty-five years of age, insisted on immolating herself on the funeral pile prepared for the reception of her son's remains; and though the attendants and bystanders

apparently remonstrated with her at first, they ceased to oppose her wishes on finding that she was determined. His Highness the Rao, on learning what had been done, took the advice of Captain Raikes, the political agent, and put under the most moderate lines on those of the villages which had furnished abettors of the proceeding, and sentenced some of the leaders to two years' imprisonment, with hard labour.

The regiments of the Persia expedition were returning to India. A part of the 14th Light Dragoons had already returned from the Gulf, and it was supposed that the whole of the second division were on their way to Bombay when the mail left.

Coal has been discovered in Pegu.

There has been another great fire in Pegu. This time the rising town of Bassein has been totally destroyed.

#### AFFAIRS IN CHINA.

THE war is still in a state of suspended animation, and the Admiral resting quietly till cool weather and the arrival of reinforcements, naval and military, enable him to resume aggressive operations. Much distress seems to prevail in China from the scarcity of food. The news from Shanghai represents the traffic, both export and import, to be in imminent danger, through the successes of the rebels, and the contemplated accession of the Imperialists unless their pay is forthcoming. The whole of the green tea country in the neighbourhood of Shanghai is said to be at the mercy of the marauders.

The East India Company's steamer *Archipel* had cut out a wandering junk from the Bay of Tung Ching. The junk was defended by a masted battery of ten guns; and while Lieutenant Philbrick, in the second cutter and gig, boarded the junk, Lieutenant Davis procured in the launch and first cutter to storm the battery. Both operations were successfully accomplished, though the Chinese made a creditable resistance, and Mr. Williams (purser), Mr. Jones (midshipman), and five seamen, were wounded.

We hear also that the *Sampson* has assisted in destroying a fleet of thirteen sail (three junks and ten junks), in Deep Bay. This fleet, it was understood, had been stationed there to intercept the market boats bound to or from Hong Kong, and the Admiral sent Commodore Elliot with the *Sampson*, *Hong Kong*, and *Sir Charles Forbes* to destroy them. But the bay was found to show that the *Sampson* led to anchor at a distance of eight miles from the junks; and even the small steamers could not approach within four or five miles of them. The work had therefore to be done in boats, and was successfully performed, though the shore and hill-side close to the beach were covered with matchlock men.

The Portuguese, who seem over-zealous to monopolise the carrying trade, have captured at Niogpo a French ship engaged in towing some junks.

REPORTED DEATH OF RADZIKY.—The death of Marshal Radzky, in consequence of the accident which occurred to him last week, has been announced, but the report wants confirmation.

A BRITISH VESSEL FIRED INTO BY A FRENCH MAN-OF-WAR.—The wife of Captain Evans, of the British sloop *John and Edward*, gives the following account of a rather remarkable affair, which had already been reported:—"The 15th May 24.—We started from Hongkong last Monday. The wind was contrary to us, with a heavy sea, and we were for shelter under a place called Quiboon Bay. The wind veered on Tuesday morning to south-east. We started from there at seven o'clock; at ten o'clock the wind was north-west, with a heavy swell. Went to Pulse Rock, where there was at anchor a man-of-war, which we hailed under her stern. The lieutenant hailed us; we did not answer him. John (the captain) said, 'Live and let live!' Anchored within a cable length of her; made all down. A shot came whistling to the deck. I gave them the word, John Hughes was sent up to meet the boys. John Hughes stood with the flag in his hand, showing what nation we were. As the boy was coming down the second shot came. John Evans and I then saw the flag, which was about a fathom higher than our own, when the third shot came between the three men that were standing the masthead, when poor James Williams fell down close by their feet. We put the boat out in an instant, and went alongside of them, and told them they had killed one of the men. They sent their doctor on board, but the poor fellow was shot dead on the spot."

THE HEART OF HENRY II.—The municipal Council of Orleans (France), profiting by the presence there of Dr. Gilles, Catholic Bishop at Edinburgh, presented him with the heart of Henry II. of England, with the desire that he may offer the same to the British Government in the name of the town of Orleans. Henry II. it is scarcely necessary to say, died at Chinon, and was buried at Fontevault; his heart, enclosed in an iron urn, fell during the revolution into the hands of a collector of curiosities, who presented it to the museum of Orleans.

FIFTY WORKMEN KILLED IN A TUNNEL.—A terrible accident happened on Thursday week, in the excavation on the railway tunnel, at Hauenstein, in Switzerland. The tunnel suddenly fell in, and almost the whole of the labourers who were at that moment at work, were either crushed to death or killed. More than fifty are believed to have perished.

AN AFRICAN STAMPE.—The "New Orleans Delta," in an article on the arrest of a suspected slaver at that port, thinks it "strange that this official Federal Government of ours persists in harassing American commerce with Africa, in respect of the latter's staple article of traffic."

CAPTIVE OF A FORGER.—A man just apprehended for horse-stealing is said to be John Thang Harrod, charged with extensive forgeries in Huntingdonshire. For some months past a heavy reward has been offered for his apprehension. He lately went into Bedfordshire, where he had formerly lived, perhaps trusting to his long beard and altered personal appearance to escape recognition; but when he arrived there it came across his mind that he should be taken somewhere, some day, and that he would rather be tried in Bedfordshire, "among his friends." It appears that he went to Bromham, and took a cob out of the stable of Mr. Rogers, of whom he formerly occupied a farm at Ridwell, and rode it to London. On the morning of the 22nd instant he was seen by a policeman riding through Whitelton, and a few days afterwards this officer saw a notice of a horse having been stolen, and the description convinced him that this was the Bromham cob. He succeeded in tracing it to Upper Holloway, and then took it into Bedfordshire, where Mr. Rogers immediately identified it. Another policeman of the S. division was put upon the watch, and the same night between eleven and twelve, near the Redon Cottages, saw a man crawling; he went to the spot and the man started off. The officer pursued and the man fell, and was captured. When he was taken to Bedford the superintendent of the police there recognised him, but did not recollect his name. The prisoner then made a statement in writing, as follows:—"I will give myself up into the hands of this Court. I had no idea of stealing the horse. My business down here was either to see Mr. Lavender or Mr. Higgins, to give myself up to them. I altered a yam, and took the horse with no intention of stealing him. My real name is John T. Harrod." He subsequently stated that he took the horse in order that he might be tried in Bedfordshire, and not Huntingdonshire; that he was tired of the life he had been leading, and he was aware that there was £100 reward offered for his apprehension. He was taken before the magistrates at Bedford on Friday, on the charge of stealing the horse. He admitted taking it, and made a long statement about going into Bedfordshire, and then determining to take the horse to serve two purposes—first, to get back to London, as he had no money left, and he wished to obtain some information, and secondly, to secure being tried in Bedfordshire. The prisoner, who belongs to a respectable family, formerly occupied a farm near Bedford; but it appears a curious notion for him to prefer being tried there, as his alleged false name was adopted to be drawn by respectable persons in that neighbourhood. The magistrates committed the prisoner for trial.

THE CANTERBURY MURDER.—The stand police-constable, Elvey, of Canterbury, and the small stout stout porter, Parker, by whose negligence the prisoner Fox was allowed to go at large, and succeeded in murdering Mary Ann Matley, have both been suspended, the one for a month, and the other for six months.

#### DISASTERS AT SEA.

As the Earl of Yarborough and some friends were cruising in the North Sea, in his Lordship's yacht *Zee*, on the night of the 24th ult., she sailed light, and the vessel drifted on to the Humbermouth shoals, about fourteen miles off the coast of Norfolk. The yacht struck the bank with great violence several times, and at length rolled over; sufficient time, however, elapsed to enable the noble owner and his friends, together with the crew, to betide themselves to the boats. Fortunately the water was smooth, and the weather fine, so that after about three hours' hard pulling against a strong tide, the customary reached the coast Guard station of Humbermouth or Humbermouth. The yacht, which was magnificently fitted up, has become a total wreck.

The same evening, while on her voyage from Cronstadt to London, the steamer *Salvo* reefed off Farnoe Island. The crew were saved, and arrangements have been made to take a view to save the ship and cargo. The latter consisted principally of wheat and tallow.

Her Majesty's ship *Raleigh*, Captain the Hon. H. Keppel, on her way from Macao to Hong Kong, struck upon a rock in the Lamma Passage, and was so near sinking that they were forced to run her on shore near Macao, to save the lives of all on board. Several ships immediately went to her assistance. There are hopes of saving the ship. No casualty to anyone on board has resulted from the accident.



## DISTURBANCES IN BELGIUM.

The ultramontane party, or party of the priests, has of late years obtained a decided ascendancy over the liberals, whom the people have been taught to believe are scarcely-masked atheists. The great ascendancy of this party in the Legislature, necessitated its elevation to the Government, since Belgium is a constitutional country. In office, the party prosecuted their plans with great vigour, backed by the power of the priests, who actually threatened the readers of the opposition (*i.e.*, Liberal) journal, with excommunication. At last it seemed time to take a step long aimed at; and which, as will happen fortunately in these cases, was taken much too soon.

The administration of charity in Belgium since 1830 has been completely secularised and concentrated in the hands of the civil power. Religious congregations and members of the clergy of every denomination are legally incapable of receiving or distributing alms and bequests destined for the poor. This distribution is made by two institutions specially appointed for the purpose; the Administrations Hospitalières and the Bureaux de Bienfaisance. All bequests to religious congregations are null and void, and all donations in favour of the poor are remitted to the above-named institutions. It will thus be seen that Belgium enjoys a law more limited in its application than our law of mortmain, but still affording a protection against the priest to the dying citizen and his family.

The Government introduced a bill proposing that it (the Government) should have the power, by a simple decree under the King's hand, of cancelling this order of things, and of conferring on religious congregations the right of receiving and possessing all donations and legacies given or bequeathed to them. In fact, the proposed bill practically repeals the existing laws, and withdraws all protection from the dying man, whom it leaves in the hands and at the mercy of his spiritual attendant. "We have liberty of speech," say the ministers and priests, "liberty of the press, liberty of meeting; let us, then, have liberty of charity!"

The bill was brought in, and the discussions were regarded with great anxiety by the people, who crowded the galleries daily. The debates lasted upwards of a month, and on the 19th ult. the principle of the bill was affirmed by a majority of 60 to 44.

The principle of the bill being carried, the opposition proposed amendment. Continually defeated, they were ever at their post, supported by the great mass of the country's intelligence. The applause wherewith their speeches were greeted from the galleries roused the ire of the Ministerialists, who declared that the Assembly was deliberating under duress, and three times during the debates were the tribunes cleared by force. At length, on Wednesday week, M. Frère-Orban, having declared that the Government were playing an "indigne comédie" before the Chamber and the country, was called to order by the President. He at once replied by accusing the President of partiality, the word "infamie" having been applied to him by a member on a previous occasion, and passed uncensored by the President. This rally was received with immense applause in the galleries, and the President ordered them to be cleared forthwith. Amid the groans and yells of the occupants this task was slowly effected by the gendarmes. The crowd then rushed outside the Chamber and booed the Pope's Nuncio. They yelled at the Ministers, cleared the Opposition members, and in the evening paraded the town in groups of fifty or sixty. Next evening they broke the windows of the "Emancipation" office, a journal specially devoted to the priest party, and likewise those of the Jesuits and other religious establishments. The troops were kept in readiness, artillery was stationed on the Grande Place, and great excitement prevailed. On Friday, the Burgomaster issued a proclamation forbidding groups of more than five to assemble, and in the evening the mounted gendarmes dispersed those who endeavoured to evade its effect. On Saturday, the King published a decree prolonging the Charter *sine die*, and, in all probability, the Ministerial Bill will be heard of no more.

Meanwhile riots have occurred at Mons and at Antwerp, at Ghent, and at Liège. The old spirit is roused among the burghers, and they seem determined to resist any further attempts at priestly domination. The resolution adopted by the King is the wisest that could be taken under the circumstances. It will probably restore peace and order, by giving the Government an opportunity of quietly dropping their obnoxious measure without the appearance of yielding to public clamour.

**REPORT ON THE MURKIN OF CATTLE.**—The report of Dr. E. Headlam Greenhow on the murkin in horned cattle, and the effects of the consumption of their flesh on human health, has been sent to the General Board of Health and since printed. It forms a blue-book of 60 or 70 pages. The learned doctor gives a lucid account of the disease among cattle as manifested in England and on the Continent. The result of his inquiry is that the cattle disease which he was desired to investigate is not of recent origin, but has prevailed in the United Kingdom among horned cattle for the last fifteen or sixteen years; that it is not peculiar to London; that it is probably infectious, but also developed spontaneously in consequence of some unknown peculiarities of breed, management, season, or locality, and is not supposed to have been introduced from abroad; that it is identical with the lungseuche, or pulmonary murkin, now prevalent in Mecklenburg, Holstein, and elsewhere; and that it has no affinity with the rinderpest or sheep pox, with which it has been confounded by some English writers. It appears that most derived from animals suffering from the pulmonary murkin, and probably other diseases, is commonly and extensively sold in London and elsewhere for human food, but that there is no satisfactory proof that the consequences of consuming it are directly injurious.

## IRELAND.

**A FEMALE SUFFRAGE.**—A correspondent of an Irish paper describes the preaching of a young woman, named Elizabeth McKinn, from Frutone, County of Tyrone. She held forth from a rustic platform erected in a field, to a disinterested assembly of at least 3,000 persons; the discourse occupied an hour and a half, and was very eloquent and impressive. The correspondent proceeds to say: "Her hair, eyebrows, and eyelashes are almost white; which, together with a rather pale but good-looking countenance, gave her on the whole the appearance of one who had received a commission from on high. I understand she has had very many invitations to preach from different parts of the country, and even from Scotland."

**IRISH HARVEST PROSPECTS.**—A southern journal writes as follows on this subject:—"The agricultural operations in Munster have been carried on with such eagerness and unceasing exertions, that almost all kinds of spring crop are now sown, and the appearance presented, especially since the timely rain of the past week has visited us, is most cheering to the farmer, who sees in the healthy look of the thriving potato stalk, with which the fields are at present green in the surrounding districts, as well as in the not less promising fields of corn, the guarantee of a fruitful and an abundant harvest."

## SCOTLAND.

**FIRE AND LOSS OF LIFE AT GLASGOW.**—On Friday morning sparks and pieces of burning wood were discovered by some persons who were in bed descending from the ceiling of a ground floor apartment at the corner of Dublin's Loan and Ann Street, Cowcaddens. The alarm was immediately conveyed to the district police-office, and the firemen turned out. On entering the house above they found it filled with smoke, and the flooring on fire. When the flames were extinguished, they found a woman lying dead on the floor. She had been suffocated by the dense smoke, and her body exhibited some marks of having been burned. Among the ruins of a bed was found the body of a boy about three years of age, who had also met his death by the same means. When the greater part of the flooring above gave way a lump of apparently charred wood fell through, and it was afterwards found that this was the body of an infant about fifteen months old, charred to a cinder. The supposition regarding the cause of this catastrophe, is that as the woman had only entered the apartment with her furniture on Thursday night, she had left a candle burning after having fallen asleep through fatigue, and that the bed had been ignited. It would also appear that she had risen from bed in an endeavour to make for the door, but that she was beaten back with the smoke. The deceased were wife and children of a boatman on the Forth and Clyde Canal, named David Forrester.

**THE NEW BISHOP OF ABERDEEN.**—The Rev. Dr. Thomas G. Suther, incumbent of St. Andrew's, Aberdeen, has been elected Bishop of Aberdeen, in room of the late Bishop Skinner, by a majority of the clergy of the diocese, thirteen voting for Dr. Suther and nine for the Rev. Patrick Cheyne. The new bishop belongs to the Evangelical party.

**APPARENT SUICIDE.**—The body of Mr. Thomson, pianoforte and musiceller, of Edinburgh, has been found in the water, at Leith; he had been missing for some time.

**THE FALKIRK BANK EMBEZZLEMENT.**—Henry Salmon, who recently absconded from Falkirk, after robbing the bank there of some £50,000, committed suicide on Sunday forenoon, by hanging himself in the stable of the Harp Inn, Conway, North Wales.

## THE PROVINCES.

**A FORTNIGHT WITHOUT FOOD.**—A week or two ago, we related that a man had been found in Stockton's wood, near Liverpool, utterly exhausted and helpless, and who stated that he had lived for a fortnight on grass and water. He was taken to the Royal Infirmary at Liverpool, where he lingered till Friday week, when death put an end to his sufferings. His name was Paul Ombidge; and he said he had been captain of a vessel trading from Bermuda, of which island he was a native.

**COLLIERIES ACCIDENTS.**—Ten men and five horses were killed by an explosion in the Fer Nicholas pit, Antrim, on Wednesday week. As the fireman was found dead, with a Day lamp by him with the top sent down from the bottom, it is returned that the explosion arose from his "trying for gas" with the naked light. Two men have been killed at the Liffick Colliery, Carr, by an explosion of fire damp, caused, it is supposed, by their using a naked light. Six lives were lost on Wednesday week by an explosion which occurred at the Hindley Colliery at Ince, near Wigan. Thirteen men were more or less injured. It appears that the workpeople were engaged with naked lights, but that the ventilation of the mine appeared, up to the moment of the accident, in the most perfect state. The cause of the explosion is believed to be a fall of roof and sudden escape of gas in some old workings near where those who suffered were engaged. Three young men met a fearful death in New Backworth pit, South Northumberland, on Wednesday week. They were coming up the shaft in a corl with another young man. On reaching the pit's mouth this young man stepped out, but had scarcely got one foot on the platform when the hook of the corl slipped out of the rope. The other poor fellows were precipitated to the bottom of the pit, and were literally smashed to pieces. It seems that the hook of the corl had not been properly put into the eye of the rope at the bottom of the shaft, which had caused the accident.

**THE CROPS.**—In Sussex the weather is described as splendid, and the crops as vigorous and healthy as it is possible to desire. "There is promise," says the "Sussex Advertiser," "of a good crop of almost all descriptions." In Kent and the neighbouring county, wheat is reported to be looking exceedingly well, oats and barley pretty well, beans average; peas promise a good crop, and potatoes are unusually forward. Hops look generally healthy, but in many places are infested with fly, a little fly has also appeared upon the bine, and created some doubt as to the ultimate success of the future crop. In the neighbourhood of Worcester the hop crop is more promising, and vernal are scarce; grass and corn present a very promising appearance. A Perth journal also speaks well of the grass crop.

**THE STOPPAGE OF THE BANK AT PRESTON.**—A meeting was held at Preston, last week, of the depositors in the bank of James and Co., when it was stated that the estate showed a surplus of £36,625 10s. 6d. after all the liabilities were paid. Ten shillings in the pound is to be paid on or about the 20th inst., the remainder to be paid in two instalments of 5s. each, or in one of 10s. if the depositors are willing to wait a short time longer.

**CAUTION TO MILLERS.**—A miller of Madron, near Penzance, was in the habit of going to his mill on Saturdays, leaving poison for rats and clearing away the poison on Mondays. The man who was entrusted with this latter task having neglected to do so a few days ago, the consequence was that the first sack of flour that came out of the mill was poisoned; and the whole family of a Mr. Penrose, to whom it belonged, having eaten of the flour in a pudding, became extremely ill. Medical assistance, however, was obtained, and they all recovered. Arsenic was the poison so carelessly employed.

**ATTEMPT TO BLOW UP A MANUFACTORY AT CONISBOROUGH.**—On Thursday morning, at the early hour of one o'clock, an attempt was made to blow up the mill manufactory of Messrs. Booth and Son, adjoining the river Trent. A quantity of gunpowder was placed in the drum of a machine in the interior of the building. The powder was contained in a canvas bag, and with it was connected a long fuse, passing through the adjoining premises, a distance of at least ten yards. The fuse passed under the door of Mr. Lindley's office, and it seems the train was fired at or near this spot. The intended purpose was, however, a complete failure; the damage, beyond the injury to a few steps, passing over the drum, was confined to the roof, the tiles of which were all displaced, and many fell into the workshop below. Messrs. Booth's watchman, a man named Richard Swallow, has been apprehended on suspicion of being concerned in the affair.

**FATAL ACCIDENT AT SHROBURY COURT.**—A number of workmen have been employed for some time past in making extensive alterations and enlargements at Shrobury Court, Herefordshire, the seat of Lord Bateman. Among the alterations are some extensive arches, which were being constructed underneath the mansion; and, as a number of workmen—masons, carpenters, and others—were employed on these, an arch just completed, and which had been built upon old foundations, gave way, burying the workmen in the ruins. Two were killed, and four severely injured.

**"QUICKNESS."**—A verdict of "Chance Medley" was returned, at an inquest held at Liverpool last week, on the body of Edward James Smithurst, aged sixteen months, who died in consequence of an overdose of an opiate popularly known as "quickness," mean only administered by his mother. She has had six children, all of whom died before attaining the age of five years.

**DEATH FROM THE BITE OF AN ADDER.**—Some days ago, an adder entered the house of Charles Bevis, gamekeeper Ford Abbey, near Clarendon. His child, about fourteen months old, took it for a plaything, it is supposed. At any rate, its hand and arm was bitten in two places, and of these wounds the little creature died shortly after in great agony.

**THE DUNMOW FLITCH.**—Three happy couples have claimed the Dunmow flitch, to be awarded to the most loving and faithful on the 25th inst. The first is Jeremiah Heard (present office constable, late farm-bailiff), and Sarah, his wife. The second is named Jeremy O'Brien, the affection of whose partner we can well imagine on finding him described as "a well proportioned man, and wears a moustache and a beard." Margaret O'Brien, sole proprietor of Jermy's, is a Scotch woman. The other claimants are William Spark, clever as a watchmaker and eccentric as a man (for he wears a broad-brimmed hat, like his father before him), and Ruth, his spouse—faithful as a wife and energetic as a widow, for William is her third husband.

## INAUGURATION OF CALTHORPE PARK, BIRMINGHAM.

CALTHORPE PARK, the gift of Lord Calthorpe to the artisans of Birmingham, was inaugurated by the Duke of Cambridge on Monday. The Duke, who arrived by the Great Western Railway at about twelve o'clock, was greeted by the whole town in high holiday fashion. The decorations were in some places so profuse as to defy description. Arches, carriages, wreaths, flags, trophies, and transparencies met the eye in every direction. The flags it is said covered the buildings, and in some parts the streets were, for they were stretched across the roads in large festoons from house to house, reaching almost to the ground. The sight of so many banners, of every hue and form, with the crowds of people cheering, and waving hats and handkerchiefs, gave to the whole scene a glow of line of procession to the Town Hall an appearance of glory in the extreme. Nor were these manifestations confined to the localities through which his Royal Highness's carriage passed. Literally none seemed so poor as to be without a device of some kind. One house showed a monstrous hide, to which coloured ribbons in vain strove to give a festive aspect, as it moved stiffly to and fro like a dead bull. Its entrance was by no means aided by a pair of jackboots, inscribed with a motto, conveying delicately to his Highness the intimation that there was nothing like leather. Near to this was a more pretentious banner, which, in addition to its material charms, had enlisted the grace of poetry. On it was worked in large letters:—

"Welcome brave warrior!  
Whose valour none surpassed!  
Who fought his country's battles,  
And has come to Brum at last!"

A little below this his Royal Highness, by a tender orthographical mistake, was hailed as "The Royal Duke." There were, of course, no end of "Cambridges for ever!" "The Duke!" "Inkermann's Hero!" &c., mixed with laurels, evergreens, and wreaths of immortelles.

A sumptuous luncheon had been prepared in the Town Hall, after partaking of which the Duke of Cambridge proceeded into an ante-room, where he received and replied to a verbal address from the Corporation, the Society of Arts, and other bodies. We need not repeat these, nor the Duke's replies in the most important of which he expressed his great pleasure at being identified with such great and noble undertakings as that which he was about to inaugurate. He ought to say, that these addresses having been received, the Duke proceeded with Lord Calthorpe, accompanied by the Mayor, the Earl of Shaftesbury, Lord Leigh, the Bishop of Worcester, and others, to plant "the inauguration trees." The only remark his Royal Highness then made was, "By the permission of the Mayor, I have now the honour to say that the park is open to the people," an announcement which was received with tremendous cheering. It is calculated that about 100,000 people were present.

In the evening, a grand banquet was given in honour of the occasion, and of the visit of the Duke to the town.

The Duke of Cambridge remained at Birmingham the following day, and inspected the principal factories of the town.

**RAILWAY ACCIDENTS.**—A railway guard fell from the train he was attending on the South-Western Railway: the whole of the carriages behind his break passed over him, and he was taken up quite dead. His wife was travelling by the same train, but knew nothing of the death of her husband until the train arrived at its destination. On Monday night a young man stepped upon the platform of the Shore-ditch terminus before the train and quite slipped; he fell between the wheels and the platform, and was killed.—A similar accident happened to a plate-layer on Tuesday morning, on the London and Greenwich Railway; but in this case the unfortunate man attempted to get into a carriage while it was in motion.

## THE VISIT OF THE GRAND DUKE CONSTANTINE.

The visit of the Grand Duke Constantine to England was even briefer than it was expected to be. The Duke crossed over from Calcutta to the Admiralty Yacht on Saturday morning. Arriving off Dover, the yacht was saluted by the Royal Yacht Squadron, and afterwards her Majesty's ship Eurydice, anchored near Osborne, paid the same compliment, with cannon salutes and ship music. But the American frigate Susquehanna, recently arrived to assist in laying down the Atlantic cable, was the first to salute the Grand Duke on nearing the English shores.

At about half past one, the yacht arrived off Osborne House. Captain the Hon. Joseph D. Mansel immediately put off in the Queen's barge, and landed his Highness on the beach, where a guard of honour of the 93rd Highlanders, under Captain Mordaunt, was drawn up. Prince Albert, accompanied by Prince Alfred and the Prince of Wales, were waiting on the beach to receive the Grand Duke, and carriages were in readiness to convey the party to her Majesty's residence. The Queen received his Imperial Highness at the hall-door, accompanied by the Princesses, the Duchess of Kent, and the Duke of Cambridge. The Earl of Clarendon was also present. In the afternoon, the Queen, Prince Albert, the Grand Duke, and the Duke of Cambridge walked in the grounds; and in the evening there was a grand dinner party. On the following afternoon (Sunday) the Grand Duke, accompanied by his Royal entourage, went on a little trip in the Victoria and Albert yacht. They stood towards Spithead, where some eight or ten men-of-war gave them a Royal salute, both large and small ships manning yards, with the standard of Russia at the fore and of England at the main. The guard should have sailed from the King's Bastion, but were prevented by the rapid progress of the Royal party, who were scarcely reported as abreast of the town ere the yacht had flown to Spithead.

The yacht then stood off to sea. We believe it had been intended that the Royal party should have made a trip round the island, but a stiff breeze blew outside, with a heavy swell, so that after sailing out about twenty miles the yacht's head was put about, and she returned through Spithead, the same ceremonies being observed as she re-passed the squadron. Immediately after landing his Highness, the yacht came into harbour to replenish coals. She then again returned to Osborne, where the Grand Duke and suite re-embarked late in the evening and slept on board. At sunrise on Monday morning she departed for Calais, from whence his Royal Highness started for Hanover, to meet the Grand Duchess. On her departure the Osborne was again saluted by the battery of the Royal Yacht Squadron at Cowes, and afterwards by the fleet at Spithead.

## GREAT LOSS OF LIFE ON SILVERSTONE SANDS.

A PARTY of more than a dozen persons, who had been living in service at Ponton, Hingham, and other places near Ulverston, left Kent's Bank on Friday night (the 29th ult.), bound to be present at the Wootton Bassett races at Lancaster on Saturday. Their route was along the sands by the edge of the bay, being the same that is taken by the roads which branch between Ulverston and Lancaster. The party spent some time drinking at the Kent's Bank Hotel, and they started in the night on horse carts.

According to the tide-table, it was high water at Ulverston on Saturday morning at ten minutes past four o'clock; and in order to cross the sands in safety and avoid the tide, the journey should have been commenced at either end at forty-one minutes past nine o'clock on Friday night, but this party, being late, were under a great deal of haste to start later by some ten or more. The result was, that nothing more was known of the party till the bodies of eight of them were found floating nearly together, and the others were washed ashore. One of the carts, with the lifeless horse attached to it, was also found. Two conjectures are hazarded as to the way in which the accident may have occurred, which no one is felt alive to explain. One supposition is, that the carts were floated at one of the streams that have to be forded. One young man of the company knew the tract which ought to have been taken, but the probability is that no one thought of using his experience. Another conjecture is, that the whole party had fallen asleep, that the horses had been left to take to it on their own, and that they actually followed the tide until the sleepy occupants of the carts were actually immersed. The appearance of some of the bodies has led to this supposition; they appear as if suffocation had taken place during sleep.

## MURDERS.

**THE BROMLEY-HURST MURDER.**—Since the committal of George Jackson and Charles Brown, charged with the murder of Mr. W. Charlesworth, both the prisoners have made confessions. That of George Jackson is as follows:—"I went to the Coach and Horses on Friday night, and was looking at them bawling, and they made me make one. This young man was then in the house. I sat in the house on the contrary side to Mr. Burford. Mr. Burford and Mr. Charlesworth were quarrelling, and I listened to them. John Cresswell (called 'Dulcimer Jack') and Brown were making a bargain to go and frighten Charlesworth. Cresswell said, 'I'll go and put another jacket on; so he won't know me,' and when against Mr. Fichett's hedge he said, 'You must not say anything; we shall have something to-night.' He said to me and Charles Brown, 'Go on after him, and follow him, and lay hold of him, and I'll follow.' I felt very tipsy, and me and Brown went on; and I was going on, and Brown said, 'Oh, come on, we shall have some money to-night.' I was that tipsy I did not know what I was doing. I pulled a stake out of the hedge as I was going along, and Mr. Charlesworth asked me where I was going; and I told him I was going along the road, and he caught me a stroke with his stick. He said, 'I know you are after me; you mean to rob me.' Then he up with his stick to hit me again, and I got this sick, and I hit him on the back of the head and knocked him down, and I was so sorry I tumbled down myself. I was very tipsy, and I did not know what I was doing or I should not have done it. That was all as I did at him, and Charles Brown picked up his pockets and gave me the money, and I put it into my pocket; and he picked up the stick, but whether he hit him I cannot tell, for I was that put about I was on the hedge, and was rather sick directly after. He (Brown) said, 'Come on, and we did, and we went off along the road across the fields. When we got to yards our house he asked me for some money. I gave him three halfpence. He said, 'The other will do at night, and we parted at that, and I never saw no more of him till next day at the Coach and Horses. 'Dulcimer Jack' came to me and said, 'You must not say anything; so that's how it was settled.' Brown said, 'I did not pick up the stick nor did I persuade him to go with me. I picked one pocket, he picked the other. I gave him the money. He gave me two halfpence. That's all.' On Wednesday a verdict of Wilful Murder against both prisoners was returned by the Coroner's jury.

**REMARKABLE MURDER.**—Powell, a watchman at Bilston, was on the banks of the canal at Bradley, at mid-night, on the 31st ult., and observed the shadow of two people on the bridge. On going up he found a young woman, named Elizabeth Hopley, and a man, named Philip Care. He heard the girl exclaim, 'Philip, don't kill me; you said you would kill me by fire.' Care then knocked her down, and said, 'I'll then said to him, 'Philip, you'll suffer for this.' Care then upon the ground to serve him in the same way. The cowardly watchman, from whose own statement we gather these particulars, then saw Care put the girl into the water, he expected every moment to suffer the same fate. He then went away to his duty, and was overtaken by Care, who again promised to use him in the same way if he told a word; and this threat he repeated on several subsequent occasions. It was not until many days after this that Powell gave information of the murder. (The body of the girl was found in the canal the same day.)

**MURDER AT NEWCASTLE-UNDER-LYNE.**—A brutal murder has been perpetrated at Newcastle, Staffordshire. The name of the victim is James Rogers. He was about forty, an Irishman, and unmarried. He was lounging at the door of the house at which he lodged, when a young countryman, named Rogan, who had some grudge against him, went up to him armed with a poker, with which he deliberately beat in his skull. Death was instantaneous. Rogan has absconded, and a reward of £20 is offered for his apprehension.

**MURDER FROM JEALOUSY.**—James Davies, who last week, in the presence of a witness whom he seems to have introduced for the purpose, stabbed a woman named Rennes, whom he found with his wife in his bed room, has been declared guilty of Wilful Murder by the coroner's jury; they add, however, that he received great provocation.

**GRACE BRAND,** the daughter of John Beard, who live at Truro, had an illegitimate child, and they have both been committed for trial on the charge of having caused its death by administering phosphorus, alone and on bread, which the male prisoner used to describe to the child as "meat."

**STRANGE CASE OF MURDER AND SUICIDE.**—Ann Bilston, a married woman, had separated from her husband, lived at Sutton, Birmingham. One day last week she left her little girl, an infant, called on the way for her boy, at school, and proceeded to the river Soar. There, according to this little boy, she said she was going to wash her feet; and, taking him on her back, tied him to her, with the infant in a shawl. She then walked into the water. The boy kicked himself free, and was afterwards found alive on the bank; the bodies of his mother and sister were lying in the water, quite dead.

**UNSATISFACTORY DEATH OF A CONVICT.**—An inquest was lately held on the body of a convict in Millbank Penitentiary. He was named Edward Gray, and was under sentence of transportation. His conduct in prison had been exceedingly violent; almost every day he broke through the prison rules or assaulted the officers. In consequence he was never, constantly kept on bread and water and handcuffed. The prison authorities cannot certainly be accused of any want of rigour in coercing him. One of the jurors seemed to be of opinion, indeed, that this very rigorous treatment had driven the man mad. That he was mad, we cannot have the least doubt. At length he injured himself while hanging to the bars of the cell windows, and subsequently died. A verdict in accordance with these latter facts was returned.





SOMDET PHRA PARAMENDE MAHA MONGKUT, FIRST KING OF SIAM.

## THE FRENCH IN SIAM.

Our readers will, we dare say, recollect the notice which we gave in our paper for March 28 (No. 101) of Sir John Bowring's interesting volumes on Siam. This work, as we stated at the time, embraced a narrative of Sir John Bowring's reception at the Siamese Court, to which he was accredited plenipotentiary, with a view of negotiating that commercial treaty of which we are now deriving the benefit. No sooner had the news of these proceedings reached Europe, than our French neighbours, following in our wake, sent M. de Montigny, then Consul at Shanghai, forthwith to Siam, and the result is that they have just concluded a treaty of navigation, commerce, and friendship, with the rulers of that country. The reception given to the French Plenipotentiary on the part of the two kings, and the officials with whom he was brought in contact, was of the most cordial character. The mission of M. de Chaumont in the time of Louis XIV. was referred to; and it was evident that the visit was held in pleasant remembrance by the people.

On the 29th of June, 1856, writes our correspondent, a member of the French Plenipotentiary's suite, we embarked on board the steamer *Marceau*, and accompanied by the war-sloops *Capricieuse* and *Catinat*, sailed for Bangkok, off which we anchored on the 9th of July, when M. de Montigny immediately and formally announced his arrival to the Governor of Paknam, one of the most important harbours on the river Menam. The following day we were visited by the Minister of Marine, who in the name of his Royal master came to welcome us, and to inform us that the Prime Minister had been sent especially to meet us, to superintend our disembarkation, and to compliment us, which was done with the forms peculiar to Eastern nations. On landing we found a corps of infantry in European costume, and a park of artillery drawn up to receive us. The latter gave us a salute of seventeen guns, and we passed through the lines of soldiery, on our way to the *Kalaoum*, who waited our arrival beneath an awning. The meeting was extremely cordial, and the *Kalaoum* handed to M. de

Montigny a very gracious letter from the second king, brother of the first king, and expressed himself more than pleased that the relations between France and Siam had some chance of being renewed.

We soon after left for Bangkok, situated on the river Menam, about twenty miles from its mouth. We were escorted by a considerable number of barges, rowed by men dressed entirely in red. The banks of the river were crowded with people, who had hoisted the Siamese flags, and who cheered us as we passed. At night we anchored off the forts of Bangkok, and as soon as we landed the Minister of Foreign Affairs and other officials came to meet us, and at once conducted us to the palace which the king had set apart for our use. Having conducted us through the various apartments, and informed us that the kings wished to receive us at a private audience on the following day, they left us to partake of refreshments, served on massive gold and silver plate.

On the following evening, at seven o'clock, sedan chairs were sent to convey us to the Royal palace, which, on our arrival, we found brilliantly illuminated. We were received under a covered portico by a host of officers and pages; and with some difficulty made our way through the crowds of regal attendants and courtiers who thronged and lounged about the staircases, and blocked up the doorways leading to the apartments occupied by their Majesties. We were received by the first king with much affability. After desiring M. de Montigny to sit by his side, he conversed with him both in English and Siamese, occasionally having recourse to an interpreter.



KROMALUANG VONG-SA, BROTHER OF THE KING OF SIAM.

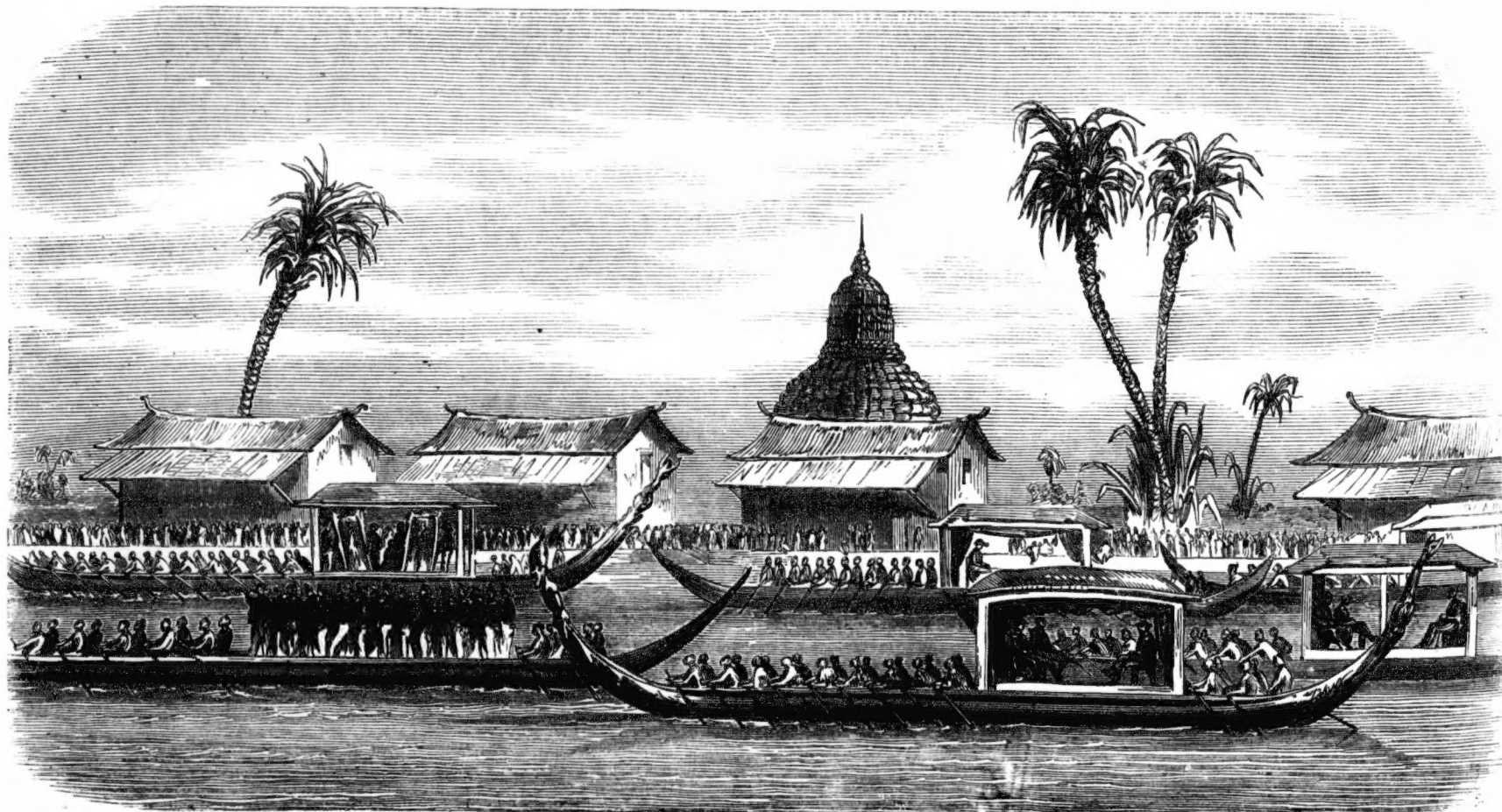


SOMDET PHRA PIN KLAN CHAN YUHNA, SECOND KING OF SIAM.

The first King, called the Great King, is of ordinary stature. His countenance has dignity of expression, and, above all, intelligence. He was dressed in the modern costume—a close-fitting tunic, made of pale blue silk, and elaborately embroidered with gold; a pair of brown silk drawers, similarly embroidered; and a black cap, surmounted by a large diamond, and having a brilliant emerald in the front. The lower part of his legs were naked, but he wore slippers made of a black material, not leather, richly ornamented with gold. His fingers were loaded with rings, and on his breast were displayed some splendid diamond jewels. From his conversation he appeared to be well read in European works on history and the reigning dynasties. He has a perfect knowledge of the ancient and Oriental languages, Sanscrit, Bali, &c.; is a better modern linguist than any of his subjects; has some knowledge of Latin; and knows enough of English to enable him to write it with tolerable facility. To his numerous titles he is proud to add that of professor of languages.

He seemed disappointed that he had not received any letters from the Emperor, and several times asked M. de Montigny the reason. The latter replied that his August Master only wrote to those sovereigns with whom he had relations, and with whom international treaties already existed. "Nevertheless," said M. de Montigny, "the Emperor, wishing to send your Majesty some mark of his high regard, has charged me to present to you his portrait and that of the Empress."

This seemed to remove all dissatisfaction from the mind of the king, who hastened to make known to his courtiers the consideration of the Emperor. It was now arranged that we should be officially received two days hence, when the portraits of the Emperor and Empress were to be formally presented to his Majesty. The following day was entirely occupied in active correspondence between M. de Montigny and the two kings. From early morning till long after midnight, a crowd of pages and officers continued to arrive without interruption with messages from their Majesties, and an



JOURNEY BY WATER OF THE FRENCH AMBASSADOR TO AN AUDIENCE OF THE KING OF SIAM.





JOURNEY BY LAND OF THE FRENCH AMBASSADOR TO AN AUDIENCE OF THE KING OF SIAM.

enormous quantity of flowers was sent by ladies of the palace, arranged in the form of crowns, diadems, garlands, birds, and even elephants.

On the morning of the day appointed for our public reception, M. de Montigny had the portraits uncovered in the audience chamber of our residence. They were copies from Winterhalter's fine portraits, and were painted life size. As soon as it was known that the portraits were visible, all the ministers and courtiers came rushing to gaze upon them, which many continued to do for upwards of a couple of hours.

From early morn the river had a very festal appearance. Flags were flying in all directions, and boats of every form and size were passing and re-passing our residence, waiting to form in the procession. At 1 P.M. we set out. The King had sent several boats to convey our crews, who, preceded by fife and drum, led the way. Then followed a large boat rowed by sixty men in scarlet livery, in this boat the portraits of the Emperor and Empress were placed under a richly-gilded canopy. At 2 P.M. we arrived at the Royal palace, and as soon as the boat which carried the portraits appeared in sight, a salute of twenty-one guns was fired in their honour; and as we landed we were also honoured with a salute of seventeen guns. The seamen marched first with the portraits; then came M. de Montigny and the officers, in sedan-chairs, according to their rank.

The singular variety of costumes and equipments presented a *coup d'œil* altogether without parallel. Not only were there gathered together soldiers of five different races, each clad in his distinctive garb, and each seeming more oddly attired than his comrades; not only were there the war elephants fifteen feet high, towering above the ranks, with the drivers seated on their necks; but, distinguished among the gorgeous clad multitude, appeared the rounded forms of the soldier women, the Amazons, who form the body-guard of the King.

At last we reached the building which contains the hall of audience. All about it were ranged 500 or 600 men, carrying long drums, which they struck from time to time with stags' horns.

According to etiquette, we waited some minutes before the door, while the ceremony of asking and granting admission was gone through, and then the portals were thrown open.

The hall into which we entered was very long, and two ranges of square columns extended on each side throughout its entire length. The walls were literally covered with gilding, and the ceiling was entirely hidden by a profusion of lamps and chandeliers, of various ages and countries. The sight which burst upon us as we entered this gorgeous reception-room was equally new and striking. With the exception of a small space in the middle, the floor was entirely occupied by Princes of the blood, the Ministers, and great dignitaries of the Court, who were all seated after the manner almost universal in the East, and who were all dressed in rich gold brocade. Holding their heads bent in front, they sat motionless as Egyptian sphinxes. Opposite the entrance doorway, at the extreme end of the hall, sat the King under a dais. He was covered with gold brocade and precious stones, and bore on his head a high crown, glittering with jewels, and terminating in a point, where shone a brilliant as large as a nut. The King was good enough to exhibit this jewel to us afterwards, as well as the rest of the crown jewels. The crown itself weighed more than ten pounds, so that when his Majesty sat in state he was doomed to no slight physical exertion.

Profound silence reigned through this vast hall, and the general effect was not merely striking, but solemn.

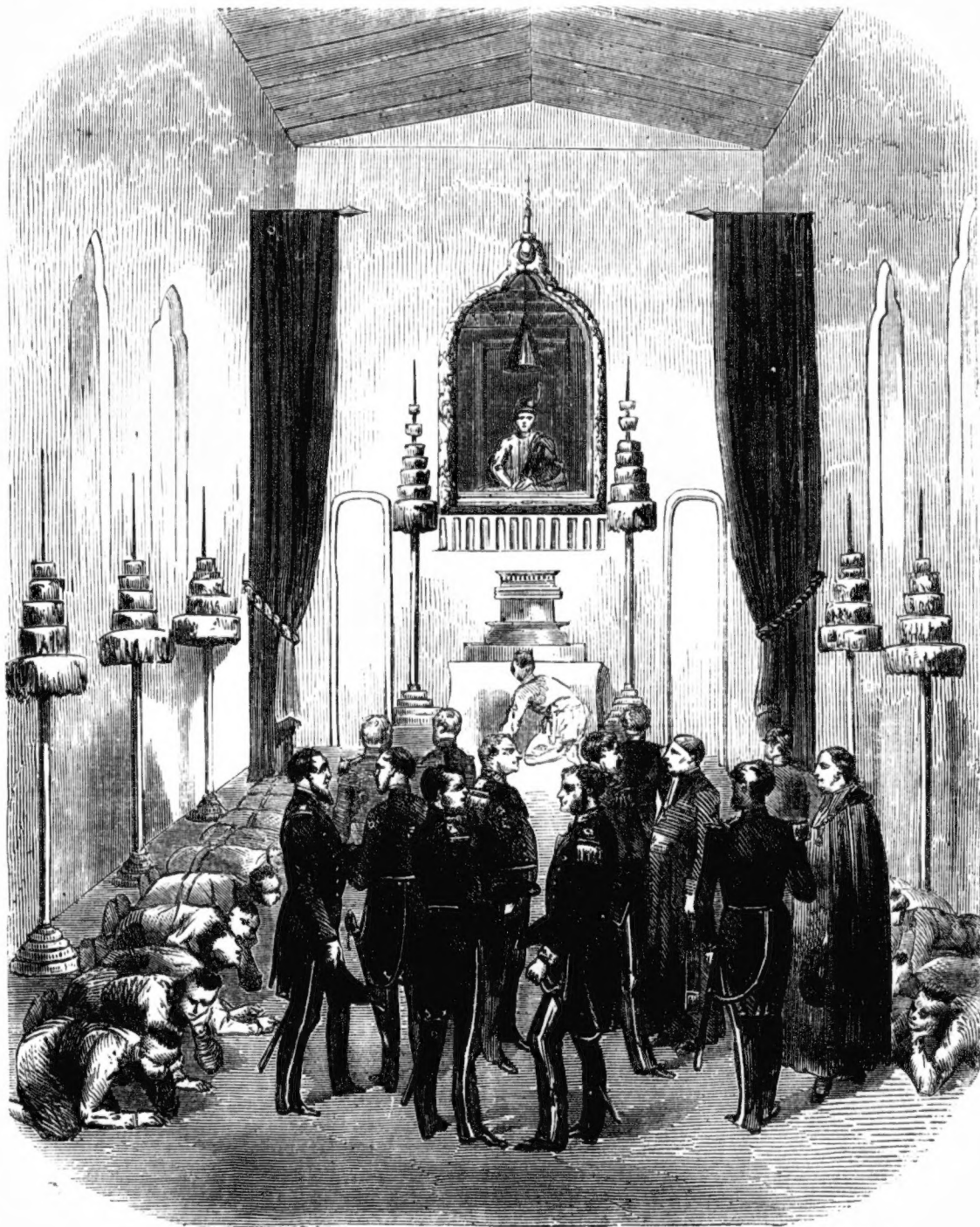
M. de Montigny advanced alone to the throne, before which he bowed three times, and then addressed his Majesty in French, explaining the objects of his mission. The English translation of this speech was also sent to the King, who replied in very gracious terms, alluding to the fact that since the time of Louis XIV., no ambassador or vessel from France had reached the shores of Siam. He expressed his gratification at seeing the terms of friendship which existed of old between the French and the Siamese renewed under his reign. He stated that he had assembled all the princes of the blood and other chief personages of the kingdom, for the purpose of presenting them to the Envoy of the French monarch.

The Royal speech ended, the sound of a bell was heard, and his Majesty disappeared behind a brocade curtain. Everybody then simultaneously

recovered the use of their legs, and the great dignitaries surrounded M. de Montigny, and offered him their congratulations.

The Minister of Foreign Affairs afterwards conducted us to the Royal pagoda, where the war elephants were exhibited to us, with various other interesting objects contained in the palace, which is of such

extent as to form a little town, in the interior of Bangkok. A repast was then served to us. Towards the end of the dinner M. de Montigny proposed three hurrahs in honour of the King, which were immediately followed by cries of "Vive l'Empereur!" We then arose, and returned, saluted by salvos of artillery, in the same manner as we had arrived.



RECEPTION OF THE FRENCH AMBASSADOR AND SUITE BY THE FIRST KING OF SIAM AT BANGKOK.



## Imperial Parliament.

FRIDAY, MAY 29.

## HOUSE OF COMMONS.

## TREATY WITH THE UNITED STATES ON HONDURAS.

In answer to Mr. Disraeli, Lord Palmerston said, that last year two treaties were negotiated by this country—one with the United States, the other with Honduras. The treaty with the latter related to the Bay Islands, and the object was that those islands should not be military stations. The treaty with the United States was for the purpose of settling the differences with Central America, viz., Nicaragua, Costa Rica, and the Mosquito territory. Another part of it referred to the cession of the Bay Islands to Honduras, the object being to bind this country and the United States to that cession. The treaties were issued in England, and sent to Washington to that treaty. The treaty with the United States was sent to the Senate, altered in one important particular, and sent back to this country. The Senate had no doubt a right to modify a treaty; but it was not possible for this country to ratify a treaty which had been altered. If this country was willing to adopt the alterations in the treaty, it would be necessary that a new treaty should be signed. The Government waived objections to the changes, except one, which omitted all mention of the convention between Honduras and this country as to the cession of the Bay Islands; thus making it appear that we had made an unconditional cession of those islands. The Government had made a proposal for the modification of that alteration, which was still under negotiation.

Mr. Disraeli asked whether the alteration was not communicated to our Minister at Washington, and whether an answer was not made to that communication before the treaty was sent here to be ratified.

Lord Palmerston said that no doubt the alteration was communicated by anticipation to her Majesty's Government, but it was not made officially until the treaty was sent over.

## THE PRINCESS ROYAL'S ANNUITY.

The House went into committee on this bill. Mr. Bowyer moved that, on the Princess Royal becoming Queen of Prussia, the annuity should be suspended during the time she continued to occupy that position; but in the event of her surviving her husband, it should revive.

The CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER opposed the amendment, on the ground that it was a mere nibbling of the question.

Mr. Williams cordially supported the amendment.

Mr. Walter said this discussion showed how much better it would have been to give the Princess Royal a round sum. He could not support this amendment, but he could suggest an alteration, namely, that the annuity should cease on her Royal Highness becoming Queen of Prussia, but that it should be raised to £12,000 a year.

Mr. Disraeli said that he deprecated the necessity of the Crown coming to the House for these sums, when it had possessions which brought in £260,000 a year. It was not the fact that this annuity was paid out of the taxes of the country. He objected to the amendment.

An animated discussion ensued, in which Mr. Francis Baring, Mr. Stobuck, and Mr. Disraeli took part. Mr. Bowyer then withdrew his amendment, and the Bill passed through committee.

## PAUPER LUNATICS (SCOTLAND).

Mr. Ellick drew attention to the necessity for securing proper protection and maintenance for Pauper Lunatics in Scotland. The statement of the Hon. Gentleman went to show that the condition of lunatics, especially of pauper lunatics, in Scotland, is most disgraceful.

Sir George Grey admitted the truth of the statement, and said that it was in consequence of the existing condition of things that a commission had been appointed. The matter is under the serious consideration of the Government. After more discussion, the subject dropped, and the House went into Committee of Supply on the Army Estimates, which occupied the remainder of the sitting. The House then adjourned till Thursday.

THURSDAY, JUNE 4.

## HOUSE OF LORDS.

## THE DIVORCE BILL.

The Divorce and Matrimonial Causes Bill being brought up before this House, Lord Brougham expressed his objection to the substitute proposed under the bill for the Act for Criminal Conversation, and with regard to the amendment, as it was called, which forbade the marriage of the wife. He declared that a greater blot had ever been attached to a useful measure than by this amendment. Lord Russell defended the amendment, on scriptural grounds.

After some further discussion the report was received, and the bill ordered to stand for third reading.

## HOUSE OF COMMONS.

## CHURCH RATES.

On the assurance of Lord Palmerston that the Government would bring in a bill on the subject of Church-rates this session, Sir J. Trevelyan consented to withdraw the bill of which he had given notice.

## VOTING PAPERS AT ELECTIONS.

Lord R. Cecil moved for the appointment of a select committee to inquire into the expediency of taking the votes at elections for counties and universities by way of voting papers. By doing away with the necessity of going to the poll various evils would be obviated, and it would induce many to vote who, under the present system, avoid the trouble, loss of time and expense attendant upon the exercise of the franchise by not voting at all. The system had been adopted for the election of Poor-Law Guardians, and had worked well.

Mr. McCullagh denied that in the case of the election of Poor-Law Guardians the system worked well. He cited instances of gross irregularities and fraud in several unions, the withholding of papers from the ratepayers, tampering with them when delivered, and even forging names of voters. In the present year, no fewer than sixty cases of forgery had been already detected by the clerks of unions.

Lord Stanley approved of the plan so far as regarded University elections. There was, however, he thought, no sufficient reason for creating any distinction in the mode of voting for counties and boroughs.

Sir F. Kelly supported the motion.

Sir G. Grey thought the plan offered enormous openings for fraud, and would occasion great delay in county elections.

Mr. H. Bickersteth saw in the proposition no element of reform.

Lord R. Cecil, at the suggestion of Lord J. Manners, withdrew the motion.

## THE BOARD OF TRADE.

Mr. Horsfall moved for a select committee to inquire into the origin, the past and present constitution, and the powers and duties of the Board of Trade, with the view to its better adaptation to the requirements of the country.

He contended that the nature of the functions of the Board was heterogeneous to an extent far beyond its competence to execute. On many points the interference of the Board was injurious, especially with regard to shipping, railways, and public works.

The Board was warmly defended by Mr. Labouchere, Sir James Graham, Mr. Lowe, and others; and after some discussion Mr. Horsfall withdrew his motion.

The Sale of Poisons Bill was referred to a select committee.

The Princess Royal Annuity Bill was read a third time, and passed.

**THE DUKE OF CLEVELAND ON THE REFORM BILL.**—The Duke of Cleveland presided at a Conservative dinner in Darlington, on Monday, given to Mr. Farnes, the late Member for South Durham. About 450 guests were present. In proposing the health of Mr. Farnes, the Duke said:—"I will not only say that every man who has £100 a year, but I would even go lower, and say that those who have £50 a year—no matter from what it comes—are fully entitled to the franchise in counties. This would include all curates, almost every village schoolmaster, clerks in mercantile offices, banks, and railways, and it cannot be denied that all these persons are entitled to the franchise, and ought to have it. There is another class of persons whom it has been attempted to bring in, but who, I hope to God, never will be brought in, and that is the owners of 210 houses. Rely upon my word, if that is once done, the landed interest in every county in England is extinguished for ever."

**THE ROMAN CATHOLIC CATHEDRAL AT PLYMOUTH** is a ruin before completion. It was expected that it would have been ready for consecration on the 4th of August. On Wednesday morning the roof fell in.

**EXECUTION FOR MURDER.**—George Bave, a seaman of the Slaney gunboat, who was convicted of murdering Samuel Long, a corporal of marines on board the same vessel, was hanged at Maidstone on Thursday.

**EXTENSIVE ROBBERY BY A MORMON.**—On Monday last a number of Mormons left Manchester, Nottinghamshire, for Liverpool, en route for Utah. Among them was a man named Robert Wright, who was one of the executive officers of an Odd-Fellows' lodge, held at the Angel Inn, the funds of which were kept in a strong box, locked with three locks, each key being in the possession of a different member, one of whom was Wright. Among the papers and money was a cheque for £218, ready drawn and signed. After Wright had left the town on Monday, some of the members had certain misgivings as to the funds of the society, and caused the box to be broken open, when it was discovered the cheque was missing. They were informed that the Nottingham and Nottinghamshire Bank that the cheque was cashed so far back as the 13th of April. The police started in pursuit of Wright, and arrested him and his family on their way to the station at Sheffield, en route for Liverpool. A portion of the money was found upon the prisoner, who was taken before the magistrates and remanded.

## POSTAL DISTRICT MAP OF LONDON.

(Size 2 Feet 3 Inches by 3 Feet.)

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\* \* \* **THE HISTORY OF THE REGULAR POISONINGS**, including a long Memoir of Palmer, and a full report of his Trial, illustrated with Sixty Engravings, is now reprinted, Price 6d., or Free by Post, 8d.

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## TO CORRESPONDENTS.

C. S.—The "Illustrated Times" is registered for transmission abroad.

C. A. C.—The Great Eastern steamship is being built for a company of the same name, and she will be launched in August, it is believed.

FLUCTUATIONS IN THE VALUE OF PAINTINGS.—If the writer of the letter on this subject will furnish us with a few more examples, we may be enabled to found an article on his suggestions.

\* \* \* The length to which our account of the expected comet, and comets generally, extends, has obliged us to omit several of our usual articles.

## ILLUSTRATED TIMES.

SATURDAY, JUNE 6, 1857.

## PAROCHIAL GOVERNMENT.

WE have seen it stated in print that the Marylebone Free Library expires on the 22nd instant. This is a little sign of the times, and harmonises admirably with the Marylebone Vestry's quarrel with the Poor-law Board, and with recent revelations about the treatment of the casual poor. Indeed, altogether, the class of facts may well stimulate people to inquire how far the present government of parishes is tolerable, and whether we ought not to encourage Centralisation as the least mischief of the two.

We have a sincere sympathy with the old principle of local self-government, which suits the English character, and helped to establish the English liberties. But there would seem to be some great falling-off in the machinery; and we fancy that the best men of a parish do not now conduct the parish business. Everybody knows that in the City, for example, the Mayor and Aldermen are no longer of so high or so good a class of men as they used to be. The grave old burgesses are represented by fussy, ignorant shopkeepers. A similar change exists everywhere. For instance, what educated gentleman here in London thinks (we speak generally) of investigating the parish expenditure, attending the vestry meetings, and so forth? He pays his rates in silence—watches, with melancholy reflections, the slow progress of any local work that may be going on, and keeps clear of it. He can do nothing, if he meddles: the conduct of affairs is in the hands of persons between whose understanding and his own he can build no bridge. The tumult of their illiterate rhetoric shocks his ear on public occasions, and he profoundly pities the clergyman who is more directly exposed to it. And so things get worse, for there is no sign of any improvement in the class to whom he leaves the business.

Take, as a symptom, the case of this moribund library. When "Free Libraries" were started, we gave them our cheerful support, as little bits of reform brought forward by a well-meaning, if unimportant, reformer. We advised the rate-payers to consent to the proposed rate for their support. Well—the objection then was that it was war time, and that parishes could not afford a farthing in the pound for education. We laughed at this as cant—and now it proves to be cant, for the war is over, and still the libraries are to go. No—the difficulty was no temporary one. It was based on that profound indifference to intellectual improvement which characterises, unhappily, so many of the rate-paying class, and marks the parochial mind. The said indifference is entirely natural to a set of men who can brutally flog the female poor, and then have the coolness to try and build a Member of the Government for declining to shield them from the Poor-law Board. Why, what do these fellows suppose the Poor-law Board is for? What is there a Government in London at all for, except to exercise a general control over the country? Why should there be a Downing Street if not to perform this duty? To be sure, Downing Street might be a great deal better, but some parishes could not, by possibility, be governed worse.

Sir Benjamin Hall has his faults, but we entirely commend him for standing his ground against such ignoble tyrants as the Hodges and Co., of Marylebone, who wanted to terrify him into emancipating them from all responsibility to the Poor-law Board the other day. No doubt they thought to menace him with the loss of his seat. And this reminds us, that our present system of suffrage rests mainly on the men who will not have Free Libraries, and who are angry if people remonstrate against the flogging of pauper women. That affords a lively prospect for this kingdom, but we think may supply a series of useful reflections to the fourscore gentlemen and more, who will be busy in devising new schemes of suffrage and this next autumn. A large class of persons, who are (why, we hardly understand) considered below the rate-paying classes, have decidedly more intelligence and love of knowledge than they—not to speak of that section of non-voters, as clerks, &c., who, by an educational franchise, would be enabled to modify the shopkeeping influence. These reflections are scarcely premature in the presence of such news as that which we have referred to above, and that which was read, everywhere, about the Marylebone men and Sir Benjamin. "No centralisation" is getting rather a stale cry now. You might as well cry "No force of gravity" for (as this journal has often pointed out) centralisation never can become supreme till local powers have lost themselves by their own laches. The pig cuts his own throat in swimming, not from the stream's fault, but because he swims badly. The French provinces were not subjected to intemperance till they had ceased to have a real noblesse. Let us have our parochial self-government, and let it be good, wise, intelligent, and responsible; that is to say, let it make haste to raise itself above its existing standard.

**FIRE AT THE ATLANTIC CABLE WORKS.**—The Atlantic submarine cable narrowly escaped destruction by a fire which broke out on the premises of Messrs. Glass, Elliott, and Co., East Greenwich, on Saturday morning. The fire was caused by a boy dropping a piece of lighted yarn in a shed adjoining the main building. The building in which the fire originated was burnt down, but the main building and the cable were preserved by the exertions of the workpeople.

## SAYINGS AND DOINGS.

THE PRINCESS ROYAL will stand sponsor to the infant daughter of the Prussian Ambassador, who (the infant) is to be baptised on Monday. The Lady Westmoreland will be godmother.

THE WAGES OF AGRICULTURAL LABOURERS IN SCOTLAND have greatly improved lately.

A LITTLE BABY-SPOK, which belonged to the first Dauphin, was bought by the Austrian Ambassador at a sale in Paris lately; it is said, for the Emperor of Austria, whose culte for the family of Marie Antoinette amounts almost to a mania.

MR. BAKING, the new Lord of the Admiralty, has been re-elected for a third time without opposition.

LODGE PANMUELL'S RESIDENCE, in Chesham Place, has been robbed of a quantity of jewellery, including the family jewel case, and the badges of several orders of which his Lordship is a knight.

THE INHABITANTS OF PADDOCK, near Huddersfield, resolved at a large and influential meeting last week, to dispense with sugar entirely until the price had fallen at least 2d. per lb.

TWO RUSSIAN GUNS have reached Chester from Woolwich, and will be placed at the Castle gates. Blackburn has also been presented with two Russian guns.

MR. DIVETT, who had represented Exeter for five-and-twenty years, is about to leave this country for Australia, where he purposes to engage in private enterprise.

THE RIGHT HON. SYDNEY HERBERT'S HOUSE, in Belgrave Square, has been robbed of a considerable quantity of property, which has disappeared in a manner so mysterious that the police are quite "at sea" in their efforts to select the robbers.

FROM TEN TO TWELVE DROPS OF CHLOROFORM, in a little water, is an unfailing remedy in sea sickness, according to Dr. Sander, of Athens. The remedy has been known to give immediate relief.

PRINCE FERDINAND WILLIAM OF PRUSSIA is expected to visit Manchester.

THE RELIGIOUS OF THE LACE SCHOOL OF LINDENBERG, BELGIUM, engaged the hair of the heads of ten young girls, who worked in their manufactory, to be cut off, because they had danced on a Sunday.

FERUKH KHAN, on receiving the despatches from Teheran announcing the ratification of the treaty of peace with England, gave orders to have a gun struck, at his own expense, in commemoration.

MR. JAMES BANTLY, ironmonger, of Sankey Street, Warrington, has been killed after forging oils to the extent of £3,000, on which he obtained cash in person at Grappenhall.

THE MINIMUM EFFECTIVE OF THE PRUSSIAN ARMY, in time of peace, is fixed at 600,000 men.

THE ARCHDEACONRY OF NORWICH, which became vacant some time since, by the death of the Venerable John Bedingfield Colyer, M.A., has been conferred upon the Rev. R. E. Hankinson, M.A.

THE BAND OF THE 1ST LIFE GUARDS will play in the Regent's Park every Monday during the summer season, from four till six.

A SUBSCRIPTION OF £55 has been raised for the police constable W. who, it will be remembered, nearly lost his life in a desperate encounter with a number of sheepstealers, at Wombwell, near Barnsley.

DURNON, the only prison in the whole county of Sutherland, having a population of nearly 26,000 inhabitants, is without a prisoner.

CALMILIN VIADUCT was formally opened on Monday. This viaduct, which has been erected for the purpose of extending the Newport, Aberystwyth, and Hereford line to Taff Vale, is the largest in the world. Its height is 200 feet. It is almost entirely constructed of iron.

THE SHIPWRECKS OF THE FINE AND WEAR turned out on Saturday, and remain on strike, in consequence of a reduction of wages from 6s. to 4s. 6d. per day. The men offer to work for 5s. a day.

STANFIELD HALL, the residence of the late Isaac Jermy, Esq., which has been unoccupied since 1818, has lately become inhabited by Captain George Cholmondeley and his family, who have taken the hall and grounds for a term of years.

CHOLERA has broken out, with great violence, in Demutara. At St. Thomas' the yellow fever has very threateningly appeared.

A GREAT DISCOVERY OF GOLD has been made in Upata, in the province of Venezuela. It is exceedingly pure in quality, and its quantity is said almost to exceed belief.

MR. KEATING, the new Solicitor-general, has been re-elected for the borough of Reading without opposition.

SEVERAL IRON CHURCHES have been recently erected in the metropolis, and are said to answer well. They are described as well ventilated, cool in summer, and warm in winter.

COD-LIVER OIL may be divested of its disagreeable taste, says a French physician, by the addition of about ten per cent. of common salt, which also renders the oil more digestible.

A PROTESTANT ASSOCIATION has been established at Leeds.

THE GYPSIES are at last melting into civilisation, says the "Stamford Mercury." Deprived of the waste places where they used to encamp, and which have been cleared them in the course of cultivation, several families have settled down at Nettlesham, and both men and women go out to work on the farms.

DIAMONDS, to the value of 225,000 francs, have been stolen from the Duchess de Savoyano, at Sicily.

LODGE BROUGHAM has arrived in England from Paris.

A MAN DISAPPEARED from Allerton Bywater three years and a half ago, some days since, a skeleton, supposed to be that of the missing man, was found in the Aire and Calder Canal; attached to it was a large chain and stone.

SOME THIEVES—and worse—have cut the tails from twenty-four oxen at Llanwrst, in Wales.

A YOUNG MAN, living at Springfield, Essex, whilst "larking" with his brother, fell upon an open knife, which entered his body and occasioned his death.

MADAME RISTORI'S PERFORMANCES AT THE LYCEUM begin on Monday with "Medea."

THE DILIGENCE from Thurn to Naples was stopped at three o'clock in the morning of Sunday, the 17th, near the Garigliano. There were nine passengers and seven brigands, who placed their victims with their faces to the ground, and watched over them with knives.

THE ALREADY HIGH PRICE OF PROVISIONS AND OF RENT IN FRANCE, far from diminishing, tend to an increase. The poorer classes suffer more particularly from the excessive dearth of articles of grocery, and from the rarity and high price of lodgings.

A FEARFUL ACCIDENT occurred at London, Canada, West, recently. A man fell against a steam saw, then in full motion, and in an instant was hurled into the air.

A POT OF OLD SPANISH GOLD, to the amount of 6,000 dollars, was recently dug up in North Carolina.

A WOMAN MORE THAN A HUNDRED YEARS OLD was a witness in a case of sheep stealing at the Litch Police-court, a few days ago; she gave her evidence in a clear and lucid manner.

THE SCHOOLFELLOWS OF SIR JAMES BROOKE, who received his education at Norwich, under the celebrated Dr. Waugh, have commenced a subscription for forming the nucleus of a future library to supply the loss of that recently destroyed at Sarawak. About £35 (in addition to donations of books) have already been subscribed.

LOVE, JEALOUSY, AND ATTEMPTED MURDER.—A man named George Parker was charged at Rochester with attempt at murder. Mary Ann Eliza Taylor and she had kept company with the prisoner for several months, and was employed by him to assist at a refreshment stand in Rushville Gardens. On Thursday evening, they had a quarrel, on which prosecutrix left his service, the prisoner on that occasion having struck her. On Saturday evening, the prisoner went to the refreshment rooms for the purpose of procuring her clothes. Prisoner was there, and asked her if she intended to have him. She said she could not think of such a thing after what had occurred, and proceeded upstairs to her room. The prisoner followed her up, and again asked if she intended to marry him. She said she did not, and passed him to go down stairs. As she did so, prisoner took a pistol from his pocket, telling her she should have the contents of it. He then snatched it, and prosecutrix rushed out of the house. Prisoner followed her, and on overtaking her stabbed her twice—once in the side. Another young woman, who was in the room, and who was a friend of the prisoner, saw what was going on, and rushed to the door. The prisoner made a long running statement, from which it appeared that he had committed the act in a fit of jealousy. He was committed.

RUBENS AND THE ITALIAN CONFESSOR.—A short time ago, a landed proprietor at Monza, who was a great collector of pictures, fell ill and sent for a priest to shrive him. Among the sick man's treasures were two paintings by Rubens, which contained pictures that in the opinion of the Rev. Father were not decent. Absolution was refused by the clerical Vanian unless the dying man would consent to commit the objectionable canvases to the flames. The latter yielded, and the pictures, which were valued at 30,000*fr.*, were destroyed. The heirs have now brought an action against the priest, in the hope to obtain some indemnification for the loss which they justly attribute to him.



## OPERA AND CONCERTS.

"NINO" has been revived at her Majesty's Theatre, after a repose of nine years, for the *début* of Signor Corsi, a baritone, who has lately had a great success in Paris, and who is in fact one of the three great baritones of the day—one of the two great ones in a histrionic point of view; for certainly no one but Ronconi could have played the part of Nino so powerfully and pathetically as Signor Corsi did on Tuesday evening.

"Nino," it is known, is the name given in England and other countries, where scriptural subjects are considered unfitted for representation on the stage, to Verdi's "Nabucco," or "Nabucodonosor," as it is less familiarly styled; and if anyone had ceased to remember the operatic identity of "Nino" with "Nebuchadnezzar," the appearance of Signor Corsi on making his entry would at once have recalled it to them; for never was such a Nebuchadnezzar-like being seen on the stage before. In his "proud" scenes, Signor Corsi looked, in spite of his Oriental dress, like an ancient Syrian; in the last act, where we see him heart-broken and repentant, he was the counterpart of a Russian monk, just returned from a pilgrimage to some distant monastery. He is an admirable singer and actor, and should be welcomed heartily at her Majesty's Theatre, which was sadly in want of a good baritone.

Mr. Charles Braham, who has improved since last season, was the tenor, the part of Abigail being taken by Madame Spezia. The orchestra, in spite of its loudness, was not sufficiently overpowering to conceal the slowly execution of the finale to the first act, to choose one out of several instances.

We should mention that the morning performance of Monday was so successful, that it will be repeated at intervals throughout the season.

The fifth *prima donna* who has made her appearance at the Royal Italian Opera this season, Mademoiselle Victoria Balte, is not ranked as third in merit—that is to say, immediately after Bosio and Grisi, and before Parepa and Rosa Devries. Her *début*, which had been for some time anxiously expected, was attended with the most brilliant success. The reception she met with directly she appeared on the stage, and before she had sung a note, showed how great a *prestige* is possessed by the name she bears. In fact, the name of Balte is known throughout Europe, from Moscow to Madrid, and from Stockholm to Naples; but it is in England—whatever may be said about prophets and composers having no honour in their own country—that she is especially popular. Accordingly, at least a third of Mademoiselle Balte's success was owing to the previous successes of her father, though, if she had appeared under less favourable auspices, and without the advantage of a name which has been associated with musical triumphs for nearly twenty years, she would still have achieved an excellent position on the stage of the first operatic establishment in the world.

Mademoiselle Balte is fair, of about the same temperament as Jenny Lind, of middle height, slender in figure, graceful both in movement and in manner, and youthful almost to girlhood. Her voice is a pure soprano, slightly veiled (which, however, may be partly the result of excessive study), not very penetrative, but highly sympathetic. This latter quality, even if Mademoiselle Balte's voice had not been highly cultivated, would have enabled her to sing ballads in a charming manner; but, thanks to the admirable method and the great executive powers which she possesses, she is now equally successful in passages of the greatest simplicity, and in the most difficult *bravura* music.

A *débutante* always finds herself in this dilemma: she must either appear in a part which is associated with all the greatest singers, or she must choose one which is comparatively unknown, and which, in this case, is sure to be superlatively unpopular. However, to appear in the "Sonnambula" was at once to challenge comparison with Vinodot, Jenny Lind, Malibran, Persiani, and all the soprano celebrities of the last twenty years; while, at the same time, it might be urged as reasons for doing so, that the music is eternally pleasing, and that there is, at the present moment, no singer on either of our operatic stages who takes the part of "Amias."

How Mademoiselle Balte was at first somewhat nervous, how her nervousness gradually disappeared before the warmth of the general approbation, and how she was ultimately honoured with something more than what the "Morning Herald" in its recent criticism on nothing at all, called "the customary ovation," is not this written in the columns of our morning contemporaries, and indeed in the chronicles of every successful *début* that ever took place? Without following the *débutante* through the entire opera, we will merely state that she was especially good in the sleep-walking scene of the second act (the few slowly drawn-out notes which she sings before lying down on the bed, being given with exquisite pathos), and again in the sleep-walking scene of the third act. Without being a great actress (how could she be anything of the kind, this being her "first appearance on any stage?") Mademoiselle Balte has certainly considerable dramatic instinct, and we have no doubt that long before she has lost those qualities of youth and freshness, for which scarcely anything can compensate, she will also exhibit histrionic talent of no ordinary degree. We must not omit to state, that the air of the first act, and the finale to the last, as sung by Mademoiselle Balte (and very brilliantly she sings them), are "embellished" in the most elaborate manner. Certainly, if the "Sonnambula" had just been produced at the Royal Italian Opera for the purpose of introducing Bellini's music to the public for the first time, there would be some justice in objecting to this excessive ornamentation; but as it was, Mademoiselle Balte was not playing for the sake of the "Sonnambula," the "Sonnambula" was being played for the sake of Mademoiselle Balte, and it was desired naturally enough to exhibit all her vocal and executive qualities in as striking a manner as possible. Altogether, the young vocalist may fairly congratulate herself on her success. Great as it was, anything less would certainly have been a disappointment to the public, who felt that the daughter of so eminent a musician as Balte was bound to be more than ordinarily accomplished.

Some unthinking persons have already asked why an English young lady, the daughter of a well known Englishman, calls herself "Mademoiselle." The answer is evident enough, it being very well known that the "Madame" and "Mademoiselle" are adopted generally, in order to avoid the introduction of several different languages in the same bill. In the absence of this rule, what polyglot affairs musical programmes would be! To say nothing of one Spanish and one Russian dancer at her Majesty's Theatre (Pereia Nena and Katrine); we have singers and musicians now before the public, from at least half a dozen different countries. Such, for instance, as Miss Balte, Mademoiselle Didée, Signora Bosio, Frau Devries (supposing "Frau" to be the Dutch for "Madame," which we doubt); while at the Philharmonic we should have "Gospodin" Rubinstein, the distinguished pianist from Russia.

The announcement that Rossini's "Stabat Mater" would be performed at the Crystal Palace on Friday, attracted a large audience, whom, however, the great work apparently failed to impress. It was, in fact, by no means carefully sung; a general indifference seemed to prevail over the vocalists—chorus and all—proclaiming itself as much in gesture as in voice. Nevertheless, they were good singers, including Grisi, Marai, Didée, Mario, Ronconi, Tagliacoe, and Neri Baraldi. Grisi and Mario satisfied us least—comparing ability with performance. The duet, "Quis est homo," was, however, very well executed by Mlle. Didée and Mlle. Marai.

The "Stabat Mater" was followed by a miscellaneous selection, opening with the overture to "La Gazza Ladra," which was played exquisitely. Madame Bosio in the "Vedrai carino," from "Don Giovanni," sang with equal taste and effect, and obtained what she would willingly have dispensed with, perhaps—an encore. Mlle. Parepa, whose *début* at the Lyceum we noticed last week, was equally unsuccessful in the performance of "O nee di quest' anima," that is, she was encored. On the whole, the second part of the concert went much better than the first; which, after all, might have been expected, perhaps.

At the Surrey Gardens, M. Julien, determined to keep up with the times, has brought out a new galop in honour, and under the title, of "The Comet," which has produced an appropriate blaze of triumph.

LEVASSEUR, the great bass singer of the Opera Française, retired from the stage last week, after forty-three years' professional exertion, in which, it is said, his vocal powers have suffered scarcely any diminution.

## THE AMERICAN STEAM CORVETTE NIAGARA.

THE visit of the American steam corvette *Niagara* to this country has excited considerable public attention, which has been increased by the fact of its occurring almost simultaneously with a debate in the House of Commons, in which the merits of steam ships of war were contrasted with those of sailing ships, and the uses of large ships with those of small.

Before proceeding further, we may state that the *Niagara* is without exception the ugliest ship of war we have ever seen. On visiting her at Gravesend, we approached her on the bow, and looked in vain for a single beauty of form about her. Her bow appeared to be one great plane, and her side another, the two being very differently inclined, of course, and breaking into each other with a harsh, sudden curve, on which the light struck so sharply that it produced a positively painful impression. Besides this, the shade lies so deeply along her long flat side, that she seems actually to narrow in midships, where she should, of course, be broadest. Further, she has no knee of the head whatever, but an aim at upright stem, and consequently lacks altogether that appearance of haste and eagerness which characterises a vessel with a long and graceful knee. Her sheer is enormous, and impresses one against his will with the feeling that her constructor expected her to break or "hog" greatly, and made allowance for the change. Nor does she convey any sense of excessive magnitude when viewed externally, although, when you have boarded her, and look away from one end of her spar-deck to the other, it is difficult to realise the fact that you have but a 12-gun corvette before you. We do not overrate these defects of form, but having so often admired, and justly admired, the real beauty of many of our men-of-war, we could not refrain from mentioning them.

The *Niagara* is a vessel 345 feet long over all, 55 feet in extreme breadth, and when equipped for sea, will draw 26 feet of water. Her burden is upwards of 5,000 tons. Her armament is to comprise twelve 11-inch guns or Dahlgren's principle, and these are to fire shells. She is propelled by engines having three cylinders 6 feet in diameter and of 3 feet stroke, each engine being complete in itself, and capable of working without the others. Her propeller is 18 feet 3 inches in diameter, and is provided with means for varying the pitch, being at present set to a maximum pitch of 32 feet. She is said to have attained a speed of 13 knots per hour under full steam power; but if we set it down at 12 knots, we shall probably do her more than justice; for when she was tried at New York she attained no more than 11 knots.

Her coal bunker capacity is only about sufficient for twelve days' full steaming, if so much. Her capacity for stores is so much below what it should be, that her water-tanks are constructed to fit down to the bilges, filling the space between the keelsons (which it is essential should be left open and unobstructed for easy cleaning in warm climates). When the ship was commanded, 100 feet was given up to engines, boilers, and coal-bunkers; but since her internal capacity has been found so small, seven feet of this space has been taken off, which has reduced the coal capacity to a very low point for her power. On the berth deck the officers' quarters are very roomy, and occupy a large portion of it; while the forward part, devoted to the crew, with (considering the number that occupy it) be found very small.

We now come to the armament of this unique engine of war. All the size, all the engine power, and all the sailing power of the *Niagara* will have but the one object of sustaining, and carrying about at a high speed, twelve great shell guns. This is the purpose for which she is made of 5,000 tons displacement, and of enormous length, breadth, depth, and steam-power, and has (or is to have) a crew of 750 men. The question arises,—is the end worthy of the means?

Now, in our own navy we have two new classes of steam ships—frigates, which carry guns on both the spar and the main decks. The first of these comprises the *Emerald*, the *Liffey*, the *Shannon*, &c., each of about 3,700 tons displacement—two-thirds of that of the *Niagara*; and each manned with 500 men—nearly 200 less than the *Niagara* carries. These vessels have on the main deck 30 8-inch guns, and on the upper deck 20 32-pounders, and 1 68-pounder. The mean speed of the *Shannon*, ascertained by trial in Stoke's Bay, on the 5th of June, 1856, was nearly 12 knots (accurately 11.8 knots) per hour. They draw, when fully equipped for sea, 21 feet of water forward and 22 feet aft—4 feet less than the *Niagara*. The cost of constructing one of these ships would fall short of that of the *Niagara*, if built in England, by many thousands of pounds, and the cost of maintenance in the two cases would, exclusive of the cost of fuel, be roughly in proportion to the number of men: that is, as 550 to 750, or as 11 to 15.

The second class of these new frigates comprises the *Diadem*, *Doris*, &c., each of about 3,500 tons displacement—also about two-thirds of that of the *Niagara*; and each manned with 475 men—nearly 300 less than the *Niagara* carries. These vessels have on the main deck twenty 10-inch shell guns; and on the upper deck ten 32-pounders, and two 68-pounders. The speed of these ships will be much greater than that of the *Shannon*, as, though of smaller dimensions than she, their engines are of considerably greater power, the nominal horse-power in the one case being 600, and in the other 800. The *Diadem* and *Doris*, when fully equipped for sea, will draw 19 feet of water forward and 20 feet aft—6 feet less than the *Niagara*. The cost of constructing one of these frigates is still less considerably than that of the class first described, and the cost of maintenance is also reduced in proportion to the number of men, as before.

Although a frigate of the *Emerald* class could have many advantages over one of the *Diadem* class, yet, as the latter has a speed unquestionably equal to that of the *Niagara*, we will confine our attention to the smaller frigate. Let us then imagine that the *Diadem* with her thirty-two guns meets in battle the far more bulky and costly *Niagara* with her twelve guns, and let them fight first in close action, and secondly at long range. First, then, while near her foe, the *Diadem* opens fire with ten 10-inch shell guns, five 32-pounders, and two 68-pounders, the latter being pivot guns, and capable of being fired both on the same side of the ship. The *Niagara* returns the fire with seven 11-inch shell guns. Now, supposing the broadsides of each are discharged with equal rapidity, we shall have the *Diadem* delivering ten 10-inch shells for every seven of the *Niagara*'s 11-inch, and surely the combatants would not be unfairly matched if these shell guns alone were fought. But in addition to these, the *Diadem* is pouring into her antagonist's five 32-pounder, and two 68-pounder solid shots, and not a single shot has the *Niagara* to give in return for the-e. At the same time the *Niagara* presents to her foe a surface for attack nearly three times as great as her foe presents to her. And further, as a matter of fact, the guns of the larger ship could not be worked with anything like the rapidity of the frigate's guns; for every one of the 11-inch shells weighs more than even two men can conveniently continue to raise for any length of time, and requires to be got into the gun by cumbersome means, while the gun itself is of such large proportions as to occasion great labour in working it. Moreover, every shell must be got up as it is required from the shell-room below, while the solid shot of the frigate lies in abundance, ready to hand, round every hatchway, and close to the guns from which they are fired. In addition to all this, the whole of the guns of the *Niagara* are at a considerable height, 15 feet from the water; and, consequently, if there is a little sea on, are rolled about through large angles, while those of the frigate, being near the water, are comparatively steady, and therefore aimed with a precision and destructive effect which are quite unattainable in the larger ship. We cannot therefore doubt that in close fighting the *Diadem* would speedily capture her great, ungainly, and costly enemy.

It would be absurd to say that the *Niagara* is not designed to engage in close action, and would invariably avoid doing so. We may quote Sir Howard Douglas with advantage upon this point: "It will not," he says, "be always in the power of the commander of a ship, however desirous he may be of avoiding close action, to be able to accomplish that purpose; for in thick weather, or in a dark night, vessels may unexpectedly fall in with, and be very near before they discern, each other. These contingencies may happen, and a close action may thus be suddenly brought on." In addition to these eventualities, there is the very probable one of the ship falling short of fuel, and being unable to avail herself of her steaming powers.

Next let the same ships engage at long range. The speeds of the two ships being supposed still equal, we have only the relative merits of the armaments to consider in this case also. Now, it is well known that shells

are fired over great distances with far less accuracy than solid shot, and also that their range is much less. Shells are much more affected than the solid shot by the action of the wind, and are also very liable to irregular rotations, because of the want of coincidence between their centres of form and centres of gravity, which results from irregularities in the thickness of the metal of the shell, from the removal of a portion of the metal to form the fuse-hole, and from the weight of, and resistance upon, the fuse itself. By experiments made on board the *Excellent* gunnery-ship, it was proved that the number of shells which struck the objects fired at, was only two-thirds of the number of solid shot which hit when fired under precisely similar circumstances. It was also ascertained that, at a distance of 3,000 yards, the difference between the ranges of hollow shot (or shells) were between 300 and 400 yards, while the differences between the ranges of the solid shots did not exceed 200 yards. Now, we have as yet discovered nothing which induces us to think that the shell guns of the *Niagara* are to be untried by the ordinary drawbacks of shell guns. Indeed, the excess of their magnitude above that of our own 10-inch shell guns would manifestly tend to increase their comparative disadvantages.

Sir H. Douglas, then, whom we know of no higher authority on these matters, distinctly tells us that, "A 10-inch gun for firing hollow shot (or shell) is inferior in range to a 68-pounder gun with solid shot. The difference of weight between these two pieces of ordnance, is only nine cwt., but the superiority of the latter in power of range, accuracy, and penetrating force, is of vast moment in steam warfare . . . Comparing a 10-inch shell gun of 84 cwt., charge 12 lbs., and a hollow shot of 84 lbs., with a 68-pounder gun of 95 cwt., charge 16 lbs., and solid shot, in respect to their range, we see that at an elevation of 1 deg. the difference of range is 143 yards, at 2 degs. it is about 190 yards, in both cases in favour of the latter; at 3 degs. the 68-pounder ranges about as far as the 10-inch gun does at 4 degs.; the range of the former at 4 degs. is greater than that of the other at 5 degs.; and at higher elevations the differences in favour of the 68-pounder increase considerably. At 15 degs. the range of the 10-inch gun is 3,050 yards, and that of the 68-pounder gun 3,673 yards. . . . It should be added that hollow shot (or shell) being greater than solid of equal weight, are more liable than the latter to suffer lateral deflection from the action of the wind and other causes."

With these facts before us it is easy to predict that the *Diadem*, with her long-range, accurate, and effective 68-pounders in addition to her 10-inch shell guns, would deliver a far more effective fire into her huge antagonist, than the latter could hope to return.

Thus we have seen that under both conditions—of close action and long-range—our cheap and small ship is superior to the American experimental monster. It is also well worthy of remark, that the comparatively light draught of water of the *Diadem* would enable her to be used in many operations to which the *Niagara* would be altogether inapplicable.

Having thus set forth the respective merits of the war-ships which the surveyor of our own navy has prepared, and of that which the American Government have produced, it only remains for us to state that the *Niagara* has been found incapable of fulfilling the object for which she came to this country. This is a circumstance, however, which in no way affects her absolute qualities. The accommodation required is of an extraordinary extent, and such as it is not easy to obtain. It is required to stow no less than 1,300 miles (weighing 1,200 tons) of electric cable, in one piece, in each of two ships. In the *Agamemnon*, a ninety-gun steam ship of our own navy, we have found a vessel which has a disposable space in the hold of no less than 45 feet in length, 47 in mean breadth, and about 12 deep; and if this will not take quite the whole of it, she has an extremely large orlop deck, upon which a portion may be placed in sufficiently large coils. The *Niagara* does not, and we never expected she did, contain clear spaces of anything like the same extent. Our Government will therefore endeavour to supply a second ship adapted to the purpose, and the will of our American friends will be taken for the deed. The *Niagara* will however accompany the telegraphic expedition, and will soon, we trust, see the cable landed successfully upon the side of the ocean whence she came.—*Mechanics' Magazine*.

## FLOWER-SHOW AT THE CRYSTAL PALACE.

FLOWERS and fine weather are novelties in May; which accounts for it that poets have universally sung the praises of May flowers and May weather, to the bewilderment of all succeeding meteorologists and town gardeners; who, finding that month not often fair, and never very floral, have been forced to take refuge in the supposition that the climate has altered, and that what is now May used to be April. This theory is supported by the testimony of all very old people; but then age always lives in a cold climate. No, it is the contrast, and the novelty, the blessed anticipation of summer which breathes in May winds, and breaks out in May sunshine, which has driven poets crazy about the month—and very naturally too.

We account for the great success of the floral show at the Crystal Palace last Saturday on the same principle. It is true that in mid-June as many people, and as fashionable, may attend such exhibitions, but we very much question whether they enjoy it as much; for the day was a mid-June day come sooner after winter, and the mass of brilliant flowers freely displayed in the great conservatory on Penge Hill, were doubly splendid from more immediate contrast with the modest crocuses, and the close-kempt greenhouse, of a month before.

The number of flowers exhibited was larger than on any previous occasion, and they were quite as beautiful. Their arrangement was also very good; and upon that, of course, much depended. A double stand ran from the centre of the building to the crystal fountain on the south and the arboretum on the north, and another was placed in the east transept opposite the grand orchestra. On these the flowers were ranged in triple rows, and the effect from every point of view was beautiful—from the gallery, almost magical. At one glance was embraced an extensive mass of flowers of every imaginable hue, flanked on each side by the delicate orange and other choice trees the usual denizens of the palace, and moving among them were crowds of graceful women; forming altogether a scene which drove the artistic into an agreeable despair.

In the transept the azaleas were in the ascendant—exhibiting a scintillating mass of the most radiant colour.

On the stand running south from the transept was a display of fruit, small but most choice; huge grapes, magnificent pines, immense strawberries, and tempting nectarines and peaches; one novelty in this section was some raspberries trained in pots. Next came a fine collection of gloxinias, with their thistle-like flowers and variegated stems. Further on were ilices, aphelexis, fuchsias, pelargoniums, and calceolarias. On the stand to the north were collections of orchids and cacti.

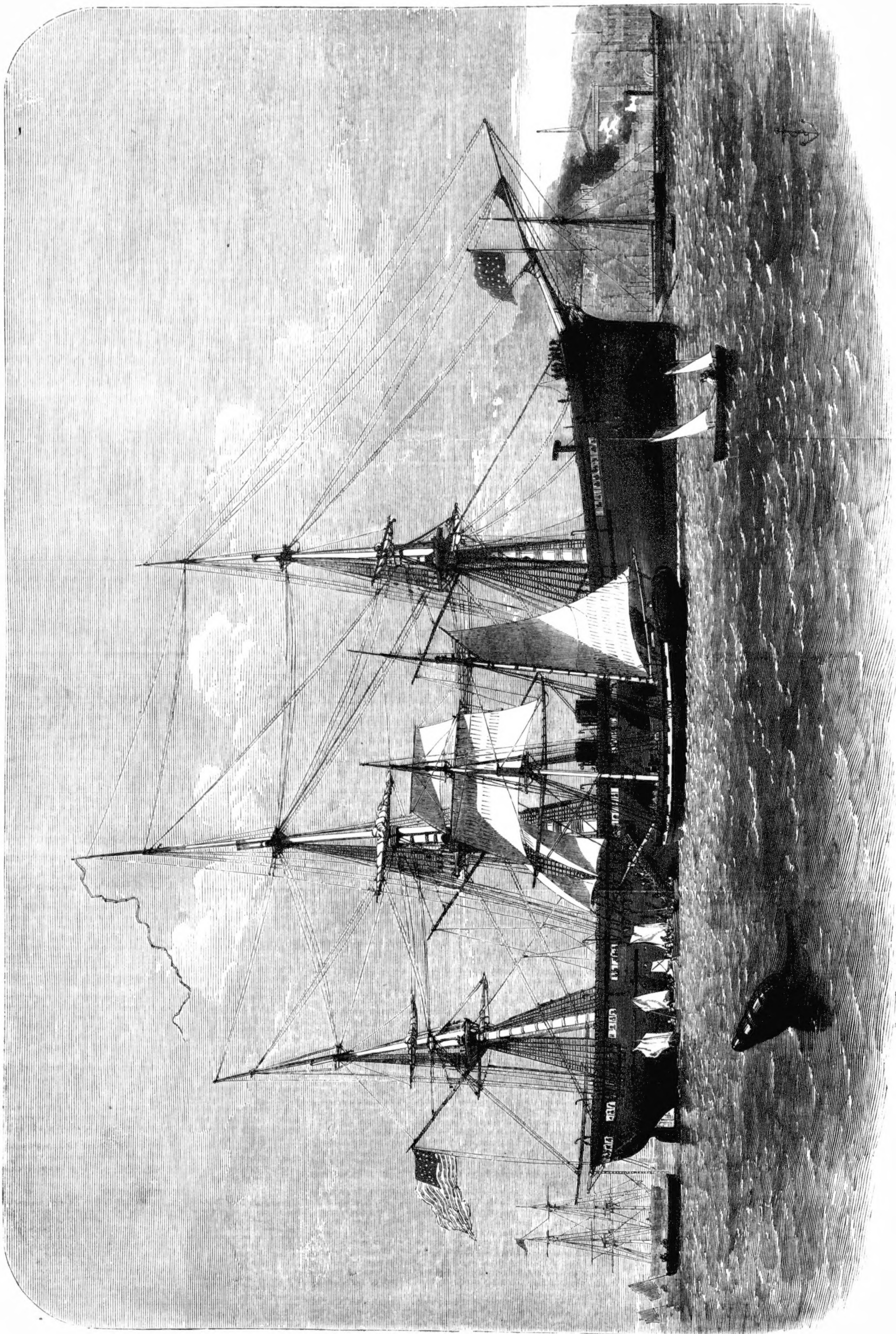
The growing taste for the interminable varities of health and fern wonderfully delicate and chaste and beautiful as they are, was indicated by the immense collection of both with which the show was furnished, and which were always surrounded by crowds of admirers.

A little before five the gong announced that "the entire system of water-works" was about to slip the leash; but the entire system has never yet been fortunate as regards the weather, and some clouds and a little rain made their usual and inopportune appearance.

Happily, however, the sky cleared just as the grand jet made its appearance, and the whole played successfully for upwards of twenty minutes, to the great satisfaction of the company, which numbered two or three individuals short of 13,000.

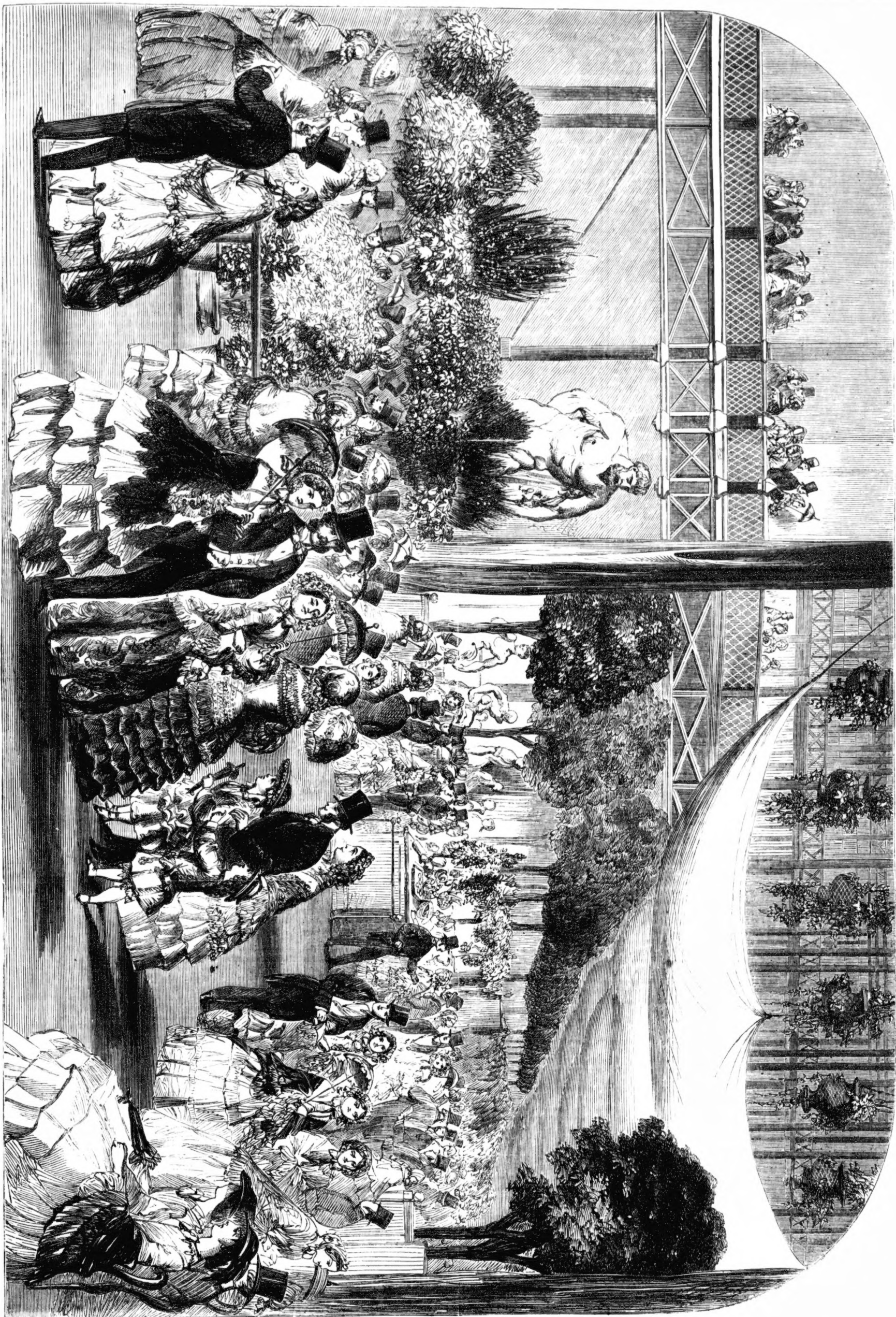
BURFORD'S NEW PANORAMA.—Mr. Burford opened his new panorama of Sierra Leone to public view on Whit Monday. The effect of it is extremely good. At the first glance the visitor imagines himself in an oppressive atmosphere. The vast scene is one of repose and peace, and the figures which are introduced are those of the black population generally, who are seen busied in agricultural pursuits—the so-called "native" farms forming a pleasing, but picturesque, object. A picnic party of Europeans is shown in the foreground. The panorama is taken from the Signal Hill, a solitary spot of considerable elevation, and embraces a full view of Freetown, with a great portion of the peninsula on which it is situated, and an extensive view of the estuary to the Bullom shore. To the left of the town is the harbour of St. George, the port which men-of-war on the station resort to. The other inland scenery is indescribably beautiful, and the various objects which are represented on the Bullom coast, on the waters, &c., evoke the wish to be personally present in the places depicted, spite of the fact of Sierra Leone being the "white man's grave."





THE UNITED STATES STEAM-CORVETTE NIAGARA.—(FROM A DRAWING BY G. H. ANDREWS.)





FLOWERSHOW AT THE CRYSTAL PALACE.—(DRAWN BY MCCONNELL.)



## LAW AND CRIME.

THREE commercial men, named Taylor, May, and Myers, have been committed for trial by Alderman Humphrey, on two distinct charges of conspiring to defraud. The circumstances were as follow. All three of the prisoners are described as "agents," a convenient designation much used in the City, but unfortunately ranging in its acceptation from the highest class of mercantile middle-men, to the lowest and most dubious pretenders to commercial position. May and Myers appear to have but one warehouse, and are connected by relationship. Myers has the reputation of a wealthy man, while May is indisputably an uncertificated bankrupt. This fact renders it difficult for him to trade in his own name with commercial men of ordinary caution. Therefore, the permission to transact business under cover of that of Myers the opulent, the opportunity moreover of using the same warehouse, would naturally be of advantage to him, especially in dealings with factors at a distance; who, although able to ascertain the awkward fact of the bankruptcy, could scarcely be aware of the connection between himself and Myers. Now, if we imagine only for a moment, that it were possible for these two to contemplate a fraud, say by obtaining a large quantity of goods from a manufacturer, perhaps the best part of the United Kingdom to pick on as the location of that manufacturer would be Ireland, in preference to any other, whence the victim could at once run up to London by rail, to see how matters stood. But if May orders the goods, the chances are that they will never be sent. If Myers orders them, he must either pay for them or lose the advantage of his good credit by a bankruptcy, which will perhaps render his name in future transactions no better than May's. A third party must therefore be found, through whose hands the goods may, without leaving upon him any responsibility, pass directly to May, to whom responsibility can scarcely be an objection. If difficulty arises, the name of Meeking is to be employed, but in such a manner as not to cast upon him the actual liability. And Mr. Taylor, agent number three, is brought into the plot. The development must show whether he is to be considered as a participator or an instrument.

Taylor applies to two Irish manufacturers, respectively named Gorman and Lawson, for large quantities of goods, and, on receipt of these, asks permission to sell them respectively to May. Mr. Lawson consents, and May receives the goods accordingly, paying for them—partly by cheques, partly by bills—the sum of £750 beyond Taylor's commission. Taylor accepts two of the bills for £184 and £76, and these are paid, the rest being waste paper. The goods are taken directly from Taylor's place to that of a linen-dresser, who buys goods occasionally of persons in difficulties without asking questions, and at an enormous—one might say a flagrantly dishonest—discount from the manufacturer's price.

Mr. Gorman prudently makes inquiries before assenting to receiving May as a customer, and, as might be expected after such inquiry, declines him, and instructs Taylor accordingly. Taylor returns the name of another proposing customer—a Mr. Myers—whom he represents as good for a large amount "without a question." Strange to say, although Taylor is evidently so well acquainted with the position of Myers, although he has been previously forbidden to sell to May, he either does not know or refrains from informing his correspondent of the connection between the two. This appears to bear somewhat heavily against him. On his own representation, he is empowered to sell to Myers, and the goods are forthwith sent off to the warehouse held by Myers and May, where they are received by May, and transferred, in due course, to the gentleman who buys so much under cost price without inconvenient inquiries. Mr. Gorman and Mr. Lawson are both swindled.

Taylor is in despair. He writes to Mr. Lawson, that May has been heard to be "off out of the country, and has robbed every one," that he (Taylor) learns that May has intercepted Gorman's goods, sold to Myers and Co. (Mr. Gorman and Mr. Lawson, as fellow townsmen and manufacturers, are acquainted), and that he hears of a bill on May, due on Saturday, and not met. He entreats a reply, and as if to ensure one, asks whether he has put down one of his own bills sent to Mr. Lawson at the correct date. On the next day, he writes again, and abuses May soundly, although May has promised him (through a friend), an interview the next day. He says, "Pray write me what I can do to assist you. . . Anything and everything I can do shall be done. . . Whatever transpires, I will either write to you, or telegraph." Now these expressions, and indeed the whole letter, look suspiciously like an earnest effort to keep Mr. Lawson in Ireland. They had the result they ought to have had, and brought him up to London, and with him Mr. Gorman.

Mr. Gorman receives legal advice that the value of his goods can be recovered from Myers, the goods having been ordered by him and delivered at his warehouse. Taylor then appears to exert himself to get Mr. Lawson to make a civil matter of his loss. He writes to Mr. Lawson about a sanguine attorney, who is willing to try the case for costs out of pocket, if unsuccessful. "If so," adds he, "you can fall back upon May, and recover the five shillings offered." (This appears to relate to some offer of a composition); "but the five shillings will be paid down at once, if accepted by all parties." Has not this very much the appearance of endeavouring to save an exposure by a friendly negotiation, or in default of this, to gain time by an action which, in any event, would stave off criminal proceedings?

The result, so far as we have seen, is the apprehension and committal of all three prisoners. On summing up the case on Mr. Gorman's charge, Mr. Alderman Humphrey remarks, "It is clear that Myers leads his name to Taylor, which enables him to get these goods; and that May was so connected with Myers and Taylor, that it was next to impossible for them not to know his transactions, or for any of them to be ignorant that these goods went to Meeking's." (The establishment where goods are purchased so advantageously). "If May really did intercept the goods, it would have been a stealing beyond all doubt, and if Myers and Taylor had entertained honourable intentions, they would have applied to a magistrate for a warrant to apprehend May upon that charge, and if May had been given into custody, Gorman would unquestionably have recovered his goods from Mr. Meeking, who, as they had been stolen from Taylor, would have had to give them up; not that, I presume, Mr. Meeking knew they had been stolen; still, he would have had to make restitution, if such a course had been adopted."

Such is the opinion of the magistrate before whom the charge is brought. We might perhaps secretly have thought it necessary to lay before our readers so long an abstract of the case, or to bring out so distinctly the points against the prisoner Taylor, but for a certain extraordinary element in the curious disclosures which it has caused. On the last hearing, the counsel for the prosecutors mentioned, almost casually, that these gentlemen had now been in London three weeks upon this matter, and could not walk the streets, or stir a step, without having threats held out to them for taking these proceedings. "That," said Mr. Lawson, "is quite true. When I was at the Crystal Palace the other day, a lady who keeps a stall for the sale of needles, held out threats to me if I prosecuted these proceedings any further." A few days ago a meeting of Taylor's friends was held at a City hotel, when several speakers expressed their conviction that he was "quite incapable" of acting in the manner imputed to him; that the charge against him was "vile, malignant, and oppressive, but was being pressed in a vindictive spirit almost unparalleled in the annals of justice." As to Taylor's capabilities, they can only be inferred from his acts, and the remainder of the passage can only strike every impartial reader as a simple untruth. However, at this meeting resolutions in his favour were passed, a subscription was organised in his behalf, and it was agreed to advertise the result of the meeting in two daily papers. Such a course is unwise in many respects; it can scarcely prejudice the case, except to his detriment, by inducing a more suspicious examination of the facts against him. A meeting of the friends of Robson or Redpath could easily have been obtained, and been prevailed on to pass similar resolutions, *mutuo nomine*. The character and fate of Taylor will depend, not upon the private opinions of such a meeting as this, but upon the judgment of a select meeting of twelve impartial men convened at another place and under very different circumstances. If these pronounce him innocent, he will not certainly be in any way indebted for the result to speeches made by personal admirers at Dolly's Chop-house.

## THE BADDINGTON PEERAGE.

BEING THE LIVES OF THEIR LORDSHIPS.

A STORY OF THE BEST AND THE WORST SOCIETY.

BY GEORGE AUGUSTUS SALA,

AUTHOR OF "A JOURNEY IN A NORTH."

(Continued from page 350.)

## CHAPTER THE TWENTY-SECOND.

THE PROFESSOR GIVES A NEW ADDRESS.

THE manner in which it had been done was this.

Mr. Nobody, left alone to his nothingness, waited very patiently at the bed-room door till the last sound of the chambermaid's retreating footsteps had died away on the staircase. Then cautiously pushing the door wider and wider till the opening was sufficient to admit his portly body, he first protruded his head into the apartment, and, casting a rapid and comprehensive glance around—taking stock of every thing within his sphere of vision from bed-tester to portmanteau-stool—first assured himself that there was neither looking nor chival-glass so placed as to cause the reflection of his person to be visible to the man in the bed. Then he stoic, as softly as though his top-booted feet had been velvet-shod, into the area of the room, calculating on every step he made, passing before he ventured on another, waiting again to discover whether the footsteps themselves produced any effect on the person on whom he was making so peculiar a morning call.

But innocence was bliss to the Professor, as far as regarded his unseen visitor; and it was folly to him under the circumstances to be wise. He sat up in bed, calmly sipping his dish of tea, and from time to time yawning slightly. He laid down the cup at last with a satisfied expression of countenance, whereupon Mr. Nobody took another step forward, with a satisfied expression on his countenance too. Then he looked around, as men in bed, on the point of rising, will do; and it was close betting that his next move would be one towards the evacuation of the citadel of his slumbers.

Now, this happened to be the very moment fixed upon by Mr. Nobody for his next move. A very rapid, unceremonious, astonishing move it was; for it consisted simply in the Bow Street Officer giving a tiger-like leap right on to the bed, and pinning the amazed Professor in his burly arms.

"John Pollyblank, before our Sovereign Lord the King—charge of forgery—Dundalk," he explained, in sharp, jerking sentences, and in the intervals of the fierce struggle taking place between him and his scarcely less robust opponent.

"It's no u-e, Jack," was his peroration, as after a desperate resistance the Professor began to show signs of being no longer sound in wind and limb; "you'd better give in."

Mr. Nobody—otherwise Leathersides—of the public-office, Bow Street, was right in his generation. There was no longer the slightest use in Professor Jachimo—or as we may now as well recognise him as an old acquaintance—Jack Pollyblank, formerly of the borough of Southwark, and "Jeptek Captain"—offering any further resistance. The game was up *pro tem*, with Captain Jack, and the stakes were with Leathersides, the top-booted. No naked, or rather half-dressed man, were he as strong as Milo of Crotona, has a chance—for any continued wrestling, against one of his own calibre, fully clad, and doubly armed in the advantage of having begun the tussle by being uppermost. The astute perception of the Professor-Captain soon convinced him of this. He found his muscular resources unable to cope against the odds he found arrayed in his disavowal; and, not very graciously, but still very unreservedly, with a hearty expletive, he gave in as requested.

Mr. Leathersides availed himself of the capitulation of the fortress to remove his long bony features from the very donjon-keep of the strong-hold, being the Captain's throat, which he had been investing pretty strongly lately; and then to produce from the hinder pocket of his coat a neat pair of steel handcuffs. Then seating himself by the side of the bed, by still keeping one firm grasp on his prisoner's shoulder, and both his lynx eyes on his face, intimated his desire that the Professor should arise and assume his raiment as soon as was convenient to him, in order, as with Arcadian simplicity of diction he expressed himself, that he might make things all nice and comfortable.

"Lord! only to think, Jack," he added reflectively, "the time I've been looking for you. You thought your Leathersides had forgotten you, but you were never out of his thoughts, my pippin. Backwards and forwards, forwards and backwards, have I taken journeys from Dublin to Liverpool, from Liverpool to Edinburgh, from Edinburgh to London. The pechays you've cost, Jack, the rumpsteaks and bottles of port! Lord bless us. And to think I should nab you at last!"

"You're a nice bloodhound to track a fellow about," grumbled his victim, drawing on his stockings with malevolent looks. "I thought you were on another tack. They told me the scent lay over in New York, and that you had gone there. Else I'd have seen Liverpool broiled alive before I'd have trusted myself in it. A nice fool I was to trust myself here at all."

"Not such a fool, Jack, as you think," politely rejoined the Bow Street Runner. "The scent did lie over yonder" (and he pointed with his thumb towards a portrait of Prince Leopold, in which direction it may be supposed he assumed America to be); "but you doubled, Jack—you doubled, my lad, and got caught at last. Capital dodge that, though—Professor Jachimo, hankey-pankry—ch! Why, they say you've made a mint of money."

And as he ended thus, Mr. Leathersides, as it were abstractedly, began to turn over the Captain's coat, take a manipulative bird's-eye view of his waistcoat, and hand-survey of his pantaloons. He speedily tossed over these articles of apparel to his captive, in order that he might clothe himself; but it is a remarkable moral phenomenon, that both as regards coat and waistcoat, and pantaloons, the pockets were all turned inside out, and that they were as empty as the great Tun of Heidelberg.

Mr. Leathersides had so much confidence in the conversion of the Professor-Captain to the doctrine of non-resistance, that he quitted his hold of him altogether, and sat down in a chair some two feet removed from the bed. But he was evidently a man of active habits, and one emulous of the fame of the diminutive but busy bee; and as he sat, he twiddled now those shining steel handcuffs I have spoken of; now his equally neat and shining steel-barrelled pocket-pistol, with a curiously fretted stock.

The Professor dressed himself in dogged silence. He had no weapons, and he knew the man who had captured him was not unsuported.

Certainly on the last point soon set in. The very counterpart of Mr. Leathersides—the same top-booted party who has been already introduced as sitting in the gig at the hotel door, and who rejoiced in the name of Darby, speedily made his appearance in the bed-room, not quite so noiselessly as Leathersides, his *confère*, but still with much cautious deliberation. He was a man of few words, and confining himself to a gruff inquiry of his coadjutor as to whether the job was done, and receiving an answer in the affirmative, sat down on a chair close to the door and chewed a cigar-light with much philosophic calmness. Simultaneous with his friend's arrival, Mr. Leathersides took advantage of the advanced state of his prisoner's toilette to slip the handcuffs over the wrists whose possessor would have so dearly wished to have used them as pivots to the hands that might strangle him. So here was an end to Captain Pollyblank's professorship. All the hankey-panky tricks, the pigeons that flew out of the portfolios, the banquet-riding hats, the inexhaustible bottles, had all come to this lamentable bankruptcy of present capture, and expectant handcuffs, and protective incarceration, and imminent transportation beyond the seas on a charge of forgery. Where committed? how committed? it concerns us not to inquire at this moment, since the Professor and the Officer, how much they might differ on other points, seemed perfectly well agreed upon this: that there was such an accusation, and that it must be answered at the proper time.

While these momentous events had been taking place at the Adelphi Hotel, and while this stern struggle between law and (alleged) crime had been working out in the hotel bed-room, another struggle, scarcely less severe, had occurred in the humble bed-room in Mount Pleasant, where we left Philip Leslie on the previous night.

The poor lad woke up in the morning to contemplate a far different hori-

zon to that which his professional friend vainly imagined was spread before him, when he ordered his dish of tea, already so frequently alluded to in these columns. To Philip Leslie, this same horizon was dark and dreary. The sky and sea were stormy, perturbed, and dismal, and the only sail that he could descry in the offing of his soul was that golden-freighted bark, cleared he knew not whence, and bound he knew not where, whose cargo was worth just twenty-one shillings.

The guinea had come from the conjuror; there could not be any doubt of that. Jachimo had some purpose in gaining him to himself,—what that purpose was he knew not; but from what he knew of the man, it must be an evil one. He hesitated a good half hour as to what he should do, weighing the coin in his hand, turning it, trying to form something like a theory by which it might have come into his pocket by accident—might have lain there long unthought of—the residue of some bye-gone paid-up salary. But, alas, the few guineas that he had received during many months, he knew by heart—no; the conjuror, and no other man, had put the money there.

"I don't know why I should annoy myself about it so," he said moodily to himself. "I've earned the money honestly enough, supposing the fellow's life to be worth a guinea at all. Ten shillings of this plaguey bit of gold now would change my old landlady's frowns into smiles; the rest would carry me on comfortably till the end of the week, and by then the 'Cottage-door' I left at old MacMall's, the picture dealer's in Church Street, might be sold. Might be sold! heigho! heigho!"

He looked round the room with a very dismal air. There was certainly a great need for something to be sold, or, perhaps, even more for something to be bought, to restore anything like comfort to that cheerless apartment. It was an attic commanding an extensive but somewhat monotonous view of the high dead-wall of a chapel—a huge brick barn of dissent—opposite. The furniture which the vintner Mrs. Craven had placed at the disposal of her impoverished lodger, was of the scantiest and humblest description. A stumpy bedstead which bore an ugly resemblance to a bear, a paralytic wash-hand stand; one forlorn rush-bottomed chair, from whose worn seat, frayed rushes struggled and asserted themselves feebly, like bristles on a witch's chin; a cracked looking-glass, which even when it was whole reflected only a hideous image; a ragged square of druggetty carpet inefficiently sprawling over the rickety flooring, like a dilapidated wig on a cranium too small for it; and a d-a-table that, whenever the wind blew in through the innumerable crevices, shivered as though with palsy, and beat the devil's tattoo with its unequal legs: this was all the domestic furniture the unpleasant landlady of the Mount Pleasant manse would vouchsafe to her *locataire* for four shillings and sixpence a week. To be sure he owed a good many four and sixpences. The grimy, pinkey-bull's-eye window had so many small panes, that its chieftains looked like the interstices between dungeon bars. It had not a vestige either of blind or curtain—this garret casement; and a window without a curtain is as unsightly to look upon as an eye without lashes. It was an excellent room to hang oneself in, to arsenicate oneself in, to asphyxiate oneself with charcoal, or throw oneself out of window from; but it was not by any means the sort of room in which to have a carpet dance, a boal of punch, or a comic song. The bed was a fit one to die upon, but not to turn one's back upon, and stag comic songs; which last, is one of the pleasantest uses of a bachelor's bed.

Mrs. Craven had not done everything in the decoration of this apartment for a single gentleman. The semi-theatrical, semi-artistic tastes of the *locataire*, were shown in a paint-stained easel; a battered old oil colour box, from which the japan had been worn in many places, showing the tin through, as the knee of the beggar shows through his tattered trousers; a pair of foils crossed on nails on the wall, with a lockless old horse pistol over them; a besmeared plaster Venus, with a broken nose and one leg wanting; a crimson velvet cap with a gold band and tassel, but gone to irrevocable seed: some odds and ends of the painter's craft, such as brushes and pencils, exhausted bladders of colour (metallic tubes as yet were not), and a portfolio with dog-eared edges; a honeycomb human skull, on a horrible grin perpetually; a pair of buff slippers covered with tarnished spangles; a hare's foot with some rouge on the furry paw; a pair of dingy gauntlets, and a collar of imitation point lace, very yellow and quite ragged. For Philip Leslie, though his speciality was that of scene-painter at the Royal Fountains Street Theatre, had frequently been compelled, owing to depauperacy of the company, to "take small parts," and in his time had not only painted Grindoff's Mill and the Clachan of Abertail, but had also worn buff boots as a robber, and tartan and bonnet as one of the Highland fies of Baillie Nicol Jarvie.

Sitting on the bed's edge, in what may rather be termed a "blue" than a "brown study"—for the fiends jocosely light cerulean, haunted Leslie continually—he remained mentally weighing the *pros* and *cons* of the financial situation, till by a strong effort he started up, clapped his cap on his head, flung the door wide open, and made his way down the precipitous stairs in a hurry that would have been natural in a man who was going to receive money, but was difficult to be accounted for in one who was about to abandon possession thereof.

He was so afraid of his new-born resolution giving way and coming to an untimely end, that he stopped not once in his downward course, not even at the door of the mouldy little *sanctum sanctorum* of a parlour, where—among birds in rusty cages, which seemed (the birds) to be perpetually moulted, flower-pots which never made any greater horticultural display than a foundation of brown mould baked into fissured cracks, and feeble twigs like fragments of school dame's rods past service, and an indefinite number of cats—Mrs. Craven sat and grumbled, and made out her weekly bills. He paused for a moment, and with a beating heart, at the street door, as if apprehensively (though it may have been wishfully) expectant of the almost maternal visit which, on the ragged woor-mat, he was wont to receive from his landlady and creditor, there to be objugated on his shortcomings. But he heard no sound this time, and went out into the street.

"I'll give him back the money," he said, walking rapidly towards the Adelphi Hotel, "come what may. And if he won't take it, I'll throw it at his head. Surely old MacMall will do something with the 'Cottage-door,' by Saturday."

There was a knot of servants on the steps of the hotel, who, contrary to all statutes of hotel discipline, known and provided, were talking noisily together. The cook, who, night-capped as he was, ought never to have been seen above stairs at all, gave his opinion contently. The head-waiter spoke his mind, and the head-chambermaid compared notes with the porter. What could have happened?

There was a strong chaise at the door—a four-wheeler—with a strong horse, held by the assistant hostler, equipages of that description did not often stop at the aristocratic Adelphi.

"Is Professor Jachimo up yet," Leslie, considerably astonished, asked of the head-waiter.

"Up," echoed that functionary, with ready derision, "he'll be previous soon down, I think."

"He's a do," the cook remarked oracularly.

"A willin'," the chambermaid threw in affirmatively.

"A regular bad un, and an out and out counterfeit," the porter said, conclusively.

"I don't know what you all mean," exclaimed the printer, somewhat pettishly, "I merely want to know where I can find him."

"And what might you want with him, yung man?" a shrill voice exclaimed, as the young lady of the ring ets and the ribbons, who attended to book-keeping by double-entry in the glass case, swept through the throng. "I raps you can tell us way such carrying on should be allowed. Such a thing," she continued with an aggrieved air to the speculator, "hasn't happened at the Adelphi; no, no, since it was built."

An indignant murmur rose from the group of retainers, who appeared to feel their own reputation compromised by the thing which had never happened before, but which had seemingly happened now. Many complimentary remarks were aimed, though they fell rather wide of the mark, at Philip Leslie; and the confident cook intimated his conviction, that the painter was "one of 'em," whoever 'em, or they may have been.

But the colloquy received a sudden check; and there was a cry of "They're coming down! They're coming down!" The servants formed a lane, a very short one, for it had a turning on the chaise at the door, and down "they" came.



A very simple procession. Mr. Leathersides, alias Nobody, on the right hand; Mr. Darby, *sum de grece* unknown, on the left; but *sum unum* with a big, bad-looking man, handcuffed, who looked neither to the right nor to the left, but straight ahead with a grim smile.

"The Professor, by Jove!" exclaimed Leslie, with a start.  
"At your service, my boy," the victim of mistaken identity or prejudice, or ignorance, or whatever else it may have been, replied coolly.  
"In Heaven's name, how came you here?"  
"Charge of forgery. Sovereign Lord the king. Stand clear! and assist in his majesty's name. Now, then, governor, look alive!"  
"Governor" was the Professor, and Mr. Leathersides was the respondent good enough to reply in his own curt phraseology to Leslie's query. Before he could put another, the officers, with celerity astonishing, though deliberate, had seated their weighty prisoner in the vehicle, had seated themselves beside him, and the assistant ostler had given the strong horse his head.

Leslie shrugged his shoulders, and gazed bewildered at the spectacle—the prisoner in the chaise meanwhile contemplating him scrutinisingly.  
"Here, I've something for you," the Painter cried out hastily, as if he had in the confusion forgotten the original purport of his errand. "You must have given me this last night. I won't have it; take it."

He took as good an aim as he could, and threw the coin as he thought on to the chaise-apron. But it missed, fell over on the other side, and so into the gutter.

"Keep it, you fool you," the Professor said impatiently. "Here, Leslie, I want to speak to you. Leathersides, let me speak to him for a minute—a moment!"

But Mr. Leathersides was of opinion that he had already waited long enough; and giving only a simple response of "gammon" to his prisoner's request, whistled the strong horse, and rattled away gallantly. The Professor had only time to cry out to Leslie, "If you are coming to London, I shall be in Newgate."

Leaving this strange card of address, Captain Jack Pollyblank, now more in difficulties than ever, resigned himself to his fate, cursed the united body of Bow Street runners all round, and moved not limly, and spoke not word, for hours.

(To be continued.)

### THEATRICAL.

ON Monday night a drama, announced as "original" in the bills, but every incident of which nevertheless smacked of French parentage, was produced at the Haymarket, under the title of "A Husband for an Hour." The piece, which was entirely successful, notwithstanding the improbabilities of the situations, the lack of ingenuity of plot, and the dullness of the dialogue, is by Mr. Falkoner, whose maiden dramatic effort, "The Cogot," was produced at the Lyceum last winter. The action of the piece is laid in France, during the reign of Louis the Sixteenth, and at the rising of the curtain we find Julie, the young Countess de Clairville (Miss Reynolds), residing with her mother at the family chateau in Dauphine, courted by the Marquis de Crèvecoeur (Mr. H. Fraser); and the object of much fervent, but of course unspeakable love, on the part of one Robert (Mr. Buckstone), the head gardener. A visit from the family lawyer, however, reveals the fact that Robert is the real Count de Clairville, and that Julie has no right to the titles or estates; upon the discovery of which, the Marquis breaks off the contemplated alliance, but offers to make Julie his mistress. Furious at this insult, the girl at once consents to marry Robert, with whose sentiments she is now first acquainted, provided that immediately the ceremony is over he will challenge the Marquis. He consents, the marriage takes place, the challenge given, and accepted; and the unfortunate ex-gardener is run through the body and left for dead.

A lapse of three years taken place between the two "periods" of the drama, and when we next see Julie, she is residing with a friend at Paris, grieving over her wicked conduct in having sacrificed the life of an honest and brave man from a mere desire of revenge, and resolutely bent on declining the advances of the Marquis de Crèvecoeur, who, now that she is again a countess, has renewed his honourable proposals. If she nourishes any *pensant*, it is perhaps to a certain Lord Thornley, an Englishman, who protects her from the persecution of the Marquis, and in whom her strong interests have become awakened; but the story is brought to a sudden climax by the entrance of the supposed defunct, Count Robert himself, in the rustic garments of three years ago. To the other actors is then explained what has of course been long potent to the audience, viz., that Count Robert and Lord Thornley are one and the same person.

The monstrous improbability of this story must be evident to every one, for even in the old melodramas we had cloaks, wigs, bandaged eyes, and other concealment; but here a simple change of dress deceives a wife in the identity of her husband. However, with a Whitsuntide audience much goes down, and, capitally acted as it was by the principals, "A Husband for an Hour" was a success.

### COMETS AND COMETARY INFLUENCES.

IT now being about fifteen years since some great natural convulsion was predicted, by a few expected, and by a vast number feared, it is time perhaps for the recurrence of a similar panic. It has occurred, at any rate. In 1842, an earthquake was the black beast of the vulgar imagination; in 1857, it is a comet.

It is true that comets are, for many reasons, very natural objects of apprehension. Their velocity, their magnitude, their sudden and terrible appearance, but, above all, their eccentricity and apparent independence of law, must excite wonder, and can scarcely fail to cause alarm; especially as religion is ready to give form to an apprehension, to which philosophy itself has added colour. The great Newton himself held an alarming theory; and Whiston, the man whom Newton designated as his succeſsor at the University of Cambridge, followed with another. Newton conjectured that comets were "the aliment by which suns are sustained," approaching the suns nearer and nearer from time to time, and ultimately falling into them. "I cannot say," said Newton to his nephew, when the philosopher himself had reached the sober age of eighty-three, "I cannot say when the comet of 1680 will fall into the sun—possibly after five or six revolutions; but whenever that time shall arrive, the heat of the sun will be raised by it to such a point that our globe will be burnt, and all the animals upon it will perish. The new stars observed by Hipparchus, Tycho, and Kepler, must have proceeded from such a cause, for it is impossible otherwise to explain their sudden splendour."

But it is not our intention to collect alarmist opinions—on the contrary. Aware that, while in France and in other parts of the Continent a profound panic exists, thousands of people are agitated even in panic-proof England, we have thought it our duty to go into the matter, and present the results of some careful reasoning on the subject as briefly and explicitly as possible. These results, it will be seen, are very re-assuring.

With the best intentions to make the following remarks clear, however, it is impossible to avoid the use of two or three unfamiliar terms, which we will explain at the outset. The *nucleus* of a comet is the bright central spot in the centre of its head; the kernel of the comet, as it were. The *nebula*, or *nebulous matter*, of comets, is the mass of fine particles which forms the haze that envelopes their bodies, and of which some of them entirely consist. The *orbit* of any heavenly body is the path in which it travels round the sun.

#### THEIR ORIGIN.

According to some astronomers, when we seek the origin of comets, we investigate the antecedents of this globe itself. Laplace supposes that the original condition of the matter of which all suns and worlds are composed, was nebulous and formless, like the matter composing the tails of comets. By the laws of gravitation, this nebulous matter, scattered through all space, commenced to condense toward certain centres. The particles moving toward these central points meeting with unequal velocity, and in opposite directions, a rotary motion is given to the entire mass, which in form becomes round, or nearly so. If, by the radiation of heat, this spherical mass should contract in size, then its velocity of rotation would increase. In consequence, a belt of nebulous particles would be thrown off, in the form of a ring, which would be left in space by the shrink-

ing of the globe itself. The ring thus left would generally contract into a globular form; and thus would present a planet with an orbital path nearly or quite circular, and revolving in that path in the same direction in which the central globe rotates. As this central globe or ring gradually contracts, its velocity of rotation continually increasing, another ring of matter may be thrown off, and another planet formed; and so on; until the cohesion of the particles which compose the central mass may be too great for any repetition of the process, which accordingly ceases. The smaller planetary masses, while cooling and condensing, may produce satellites in the same manner. Strange and fanciful as this species of theory may seem, it at least accounts for all the great features of the solar system. In one instance alone, we find the rings of matter solidified in cooling, instead of breaking up or becoming globular bodies. This is found in the rings of Saturn, which present the very characteristics which would ensue from their formation according to the preceding theory; while, humbly speaking, and according to all known law, the adjustment of these rings to the planet would be impossible after its formation.

Granting the formation of a single sun by the nebular theory, and the formation of all other suns and systems is accounted for; and it would be necessary to include comets in the law. The advocates of this theory, who disavow these eccentric bodies, hold that they have their origin in masses of nebulous matter, occupying a place within the influence of two or more great centres, and held nearly in equilibrium, until, finally, the attraction of some one centre (say the sun) predominates, and the uncondensed filmy mass is drawn within the influence of this controlling orb. This theory would seem to be sustained, so far as a single truth can sustain any theory, by the fact that the comets come into our system from all possible directions.

#### THEIR NATURE AND INFLUENCES.

Comets generally present the appearance of a brilliant nucleus, or central body, surrounded by a vaporous-looking haze of nebulous matter. This vaporous or aeriform envelope is of variable shape, not only in various comets, but in individuals; its general form, however, is roundish. From this mass, which is called the head of the comet, often, though not always,

extends a train of similar, but less dense matter, called the tail. The haze which surrounds the head is called the *coma*, from the Greek word signifying *hair*. The entire object is called *comet*, from the Greek word signifying "hairy stars." The Chinese call the tail "the brush."

Comets move in paths of various forms; generalised as the elliptic orbit, the parabolic orbit, and the hyperbolic orbit. They are shown in the accompanying diagram, in comparison with the paths of the planets, represented by the circular lines. The smaller of these cometary orbits is the ellipse—a *u*. That marked *p p a* is the parabolic; *h h a*, the hyperbolic. Only those comets which pursue an elliptic path perform successive and regular revolutions round the sun, or are to be regarded as belonging to our system. Comets which move in a parabola (*p p a*) come in an almost straight line from an infinite distance, and arriving within the sensible attraction of the sun, curve gradually toward it, sweep suddenly and swiftly round it, and then returning in a direction parallel to that in which they came, shoot out into space and visit us no more. So with the hyperbola, except that comets which describe this path are drawn toward the sun and escape from its influence in divergent and not parallel directions, as at *h h a*. These comets, in fact, the parabolic and hyperbolic, resemble in this respect the occasional meteors which are seen to illuminate the atmosphere. They are drawn within our system accidentally (if the word is admissible) and escape from it never to return.

Arago divides comets into three classes, with reference to their physical construction:—solid opaque bodies; comets in which there is a nucleus, but not opaque, permitting the light to penetrate it; and comets entirely destitute of any solid nucleus, consisting of matter much finer and more attenuated than our own atmosphere.

Some astronomers, however, deny the existence of any solid matter in comets; asserting that even those nuclei which appear through their vaporous envelopes most brilliantly and planet-like, are in fact more or less transparent. On the contrary, it is argued that the great splendour of some recorded comets forbids the assumption that they were mere vapour, since vapour could not reflect such brilliant light. Arago, in support of his opinion, refers to several comets which are recorded to have been visible by daylight. Of these, the most remarkable is that which re-appeared forty-three years B.C., shortly after the assassination of Cæsar, and which was supposed by the Romans to be the soul of that great soldier and statesman transferred to the heavens; this comet is thought to be identical with the famous comet of 1680. Another which Arago instances was that which in 1532 first startled the people of Milan by an apparition in daylight; its head appeared constantly in the morning before the sun, and was three times larger than Jupiter. This, however, is not regarded as irrefragable or conclusive evidence; and the actual result of all observation on this subject is, that if the existence of a solid substance in some comets is probable, it is at any rate not certain; while the large majority of these bodies are beyond all doubt mere impalpable masses, aeriform or vaporous.

This fact alone must be very comforting to the weak at this period—and indeed at all periods—if Kepler did not exaggerate when he declared that there are more comets in space than fishes in the ocean! Arago, again, calculates that not less than three and a half millions of comets—and probably twice that number—have passed through our system. Many hundreds, some of them of huge and most terrible aspect, are recorded to have been seen. And yet there is no single evidence that any planet of our system has at any time been disturbed, even in the smallest degree, by these erratic visitors. The comet which amazed the world just after the death of Cæsar—again in 1106, when it appeared "in similitude to the blaze of the sun, having an immense train;" once more in 1531—a huge and terrific apparition, like a burning lamp; and lastly in 1680—came and went without more discomfort to the earth's inhabitants than was created by their own fears, for which of course it was not responsible. The appearance of this comet on the latter occasion has been recorded. It came in splendour and swiftness from the regions of space, and plunging downwards perpendicularly, appeared to direct its flight in such a manner that it must inevitably plunge into the sun. This piece of mischief, however, it was not destined to accomplish. Increasing its velocity as it approached the sun, it swept round this body at the speed of a million of miles an hour, approaching it to within a distance of 235,000 miles, calculating from the centre of the comet to the surface of the sun. It then commenced its outward flight, throwing off a train of light which extended to the enormous distance of a hundred millions of miles. With the swiftness that belongs to comets only, it swept away from the sun, was gradually lost in the wide deserts of space, and has never been seen since. Such was the coming and

going of the most portentous and magnificent body that from time to time visits our system. It is true that, according to Whiston, it visited our system at the time of the deluge, and caused that event; but Whiston has been satisfactorily answered.

The enormous distance to which this comet receded from the sun will sufficiently illustrate this portion of the subject generally. The comet of 1680, like all those which visit our system at periodical times, travels in an ellipse, as before described. Its distance from the sun at perihelion, or at that point of its path nearest to the sun, we have seen to be some 235,000 miles. Its apohelion, or farthest distance from the sun, is considerably more than eighty-five thousand millions of miles—that is, twenty-eight and a half times greater than the enormous distance at which the planet Neptune revolves obedient to the sun. But lest this should not be sufficient to astound the mind of the reader, we may mention that this distance of eighty-five thousand million miles is only about a third or a fourth of the aphelion distance of the comets of 1780, 1830, and 1844.

That the entire mass of most comets, and nearly the entire mass of the rest, is composed of far distant and infinitely minute particles, is proved in various ways. The comet of 1832, from which also the destruction of the earth was anticipated, was seen by Sir John Herschel to pass over a small cluster of most minute stars of the sixteenth and seventeenth magnitude; and the stars were distinctly visible through the comet. "The most troubling fog would have effaced this group of stars, yet they continued visible through a thickness of cometary matter which must have exceeded fifty thousand miles at least." This comet is one of the few which pursue a regular course round the sun, like the planets; and it is the only one which at the same time encroaches upon the path of the earth. It travels through an elliptic (elongated oval) orbit, once in about six years and three quarters; and once in this period, therefore, the earth and the comet arrive respectively at a point where it is possible they might meet. In 1832, the panic was occasioned by the fear that these bodies would meet at this point. This, however, they did not. The comet passed it on the 29th of October, the earth on the 30th of November, when a distance of fifty millions of miles separated them. In 1805, when there was no panic, the distance between them at this point was only five millions of miles.

It may nevertheless be observed with truth, as Dr. Lardner remarks, that, "although the danger of an encounter with comets whose paths are known to be insignificant, the risk with relation to the far more numerous class of these bodies whose motions are unascertained, and which pass continually among the planets, may be greater." But this supposition is met by the science of probabilities—a science which experience has shown may, for all intents and purposes, be classed with those which are called exact. And this is the result, as calculated by Arago and expressed by Lardner—"It has been shown that, assuming the number of comets which pass within the earth's orbit to be the greatest that it can be imagined to be, and that the magnitudes of these comets be also the greatest that they can be conceived to be, the chances against a collision of the earth with any individual comet would be 281 millions to one." This conclusion, which is based upon strict mathematical reasoning, will, we presume, be sufficient to re-assure the timid on this subject.

Besides that stars of a very inferior magnitude are visible through them, another peculiarly observable in comets of all the heavenly bodies along goes to prove them merely vaporous. This is, that the further they recede from the sun, the greater is their apparent size. Astronomers generally agree that this phenomenon is only to be accounted for in this way: that when a comet approaches near the sun the vapour which surrounds its nucleus becomes heated, and therefore expanded to a degree which renders it transparent and invisible; just, to use Dr. Lardner's felicitous illustration, as steam issuing from the safety-valve of a boiler is invisible at the moment of its escape, and assumes a greater and greater volume of whitish cloudy matter as its distance from the valve and exposure to the condensing effect of the cold air increases.

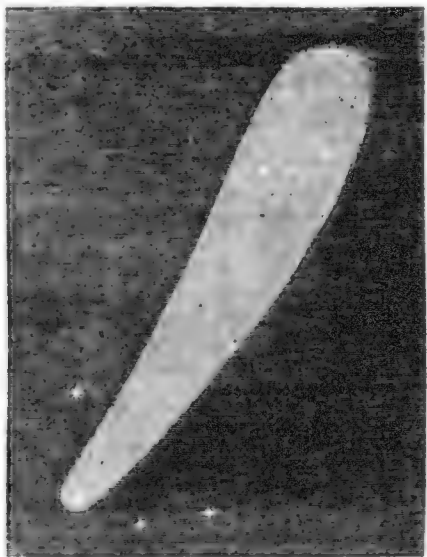
That the earth should one day find itself within the tail of a comet, however, does not seem improbable when we consider the enormous length to which these appendages sometimes extend. We have already mentioned that the tail of the comet of 1680, in retiring from the sun, measured no less than a hundred millions of miles—that is to say, it extended over a distance greater by one-twentieth than that which separates this sphere from the sun. But that is not the longest tail on record. The comet which appeared in 1811 was followed by a train 130 millions of miles long; while that of 1843 had a tail twice the length of that of 1680—namely, 200 millions of miles. This is so large a proportion of the entire space comprising the solar system, that the event of the earth's immersion in a comet's brush does not seem highly improbable, as it is nevertheless said by mathematicians to be. The consequences of such an event it is impossible to foreknow, strictly speaking. Men of considerable reputation have held the opinion that the greater epidemics which have from time to time appeared are attributable to the intermixture of cometary matter with our atmosphere; but the fact that epidemics are generally local, and confined even to a few square miles, is of itself, perhaps, a sufficient objection to the theory. Not that it is the only one. Another of the influences which have been attributed to comets, and that most frequently, vanishes upon investigation. It is generally supposed that cometary visitations are accompanied by excessive heat. That this has been the case in one or two instances is certain; but the coincidence appears to be entirely accidental, since a comparison of the temperature of the seasons at which the most remarkable comets appeared, goes to prove that, if anything, the balance is in the opposite scale—in an almost unappreciable degree, it is true; but that is all the more satisfactory.

The vast and luminous trains to which such wonderful powers have been attributed, make comets so peculiarly awful to the popular mind. The immense length to which they have been known to extend, is not at all disproportioned to their bulk. The tail of the comet of 1811, which we have stated to have been one hundred and thirty millions of miles long, had a bulk about five hundred and ninety million times the bulk of the earth! But it is thought that these enormous trains of luminous matter are hollow; and for this reason: A dark line is usually seen to divide the tail longitudinally. This is the appearance that would be presented were the tail hollow; for then we should look upon thicker masses of vapour at the edges than at the middle.

Two other extraordinary characteristics belong to these appendages. The first is the velocity with which they are thrown out from the head. The comet of 1843 threw out its tail of 200,000,000 of miles in twenty days; that is, at the rate of 7,000 miles per minute. The other remarkable feature is somewhat connected with the first—that the tails of comets are often turned outward from the sun, instead of gravitating towards it, and in a direction which also forbids the assumption that they gravitate to the nucleus of the comet itself. Sir John Herschel came to the conclusion at the last return of Halley's comet, that its figure, envelope and tail, could not be a figure of equilibrium under the law of gravitation. He is therefore compelled to bring in a *repulsive* force to explain the phenomenon. He argues that the velocity with which the matter composing the tail has been known to shoot forth from the head of a comet from the sun, is far greater than that which the sun could give to a body falling to it, even from an infinite distance. An energy of a different kind from gravitation, and far more powerful, must exist to produce such results. The presence of such a power in the sun, capable of repelling matter of a certain quality existing in comets, would explain several difficult problems. Encke's comet, for instance, describes its path in our system in about three years and a quarter; but this period is shortened at every revolution, and time by time the comet tails nearer to the sun. Now if the sun possesses the power of repelling the matter of comets in their perihelion passage (or at the point of their path which is nearest to that luminary), a part of the matter thus repelled may be driven entirely beyond the attractive influence of the nucleus, and be irreversibly lost. The consequent diminution of the mass of the comet would involve a contraction of its path, and an abbreviation of the time in which it travels through that path. A comet known as Biela's was seen in 1846 to separate into two parts, each having a nucleus, the attendant nebulous haze, and a short tail; Sir John Herschel thinks it possible to account for that phenomenon on his hypothesis of a repulsive force.

The theory, however, is not generally received by astronomers. The diminution of the periodic time of Encke's comet is explained by others on the supposition of a *resisting medium*. Encke argued that a medium



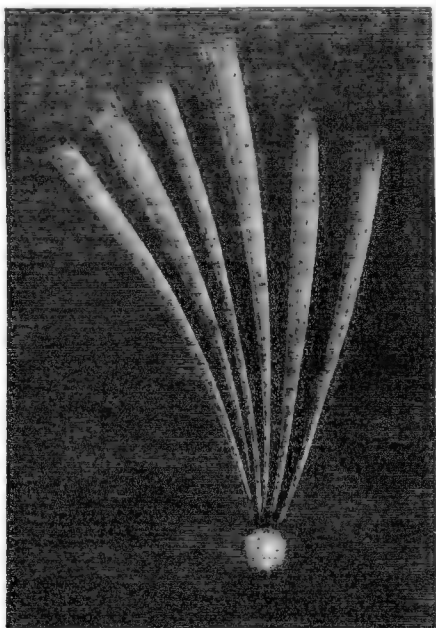


THE COMET OF 1680.

might exist, of such exceeding tenuity as not sensibly to affect the movements of the ponderous planets, while a filmy mass of vapour such as this comet undoubtedly is (it has no nucleus) might be very sensibly retarded in its original velocity, and so give to the attraction of the sun a constantly increasing power. The objection to this medium is, that under its influence (acting, it is true, over almost infinite periods), the comets must successively fall into the sun—if, indeed, the theory does not ultimately involve the destruction of the entire planetary system.

#### HAS THE EARTH BEEN ALREADY IMMERSSED IN A COMET'S TAIL?

This question has been soberly discussed. On the same day in 1783 (June 18), a dense fog appeared in the most distant parts of Europe, touching also, in fact, upon the North American continent, and extending north and south from Sweden to Africa. This fog had these peculiar qualities: it lasted for a month; it was as dense on the summits of the highest mountains as in the plains; it was unmoved by the winds, and uninfluenced by constant and heavy rains; in some places it completely obscured the sun. To

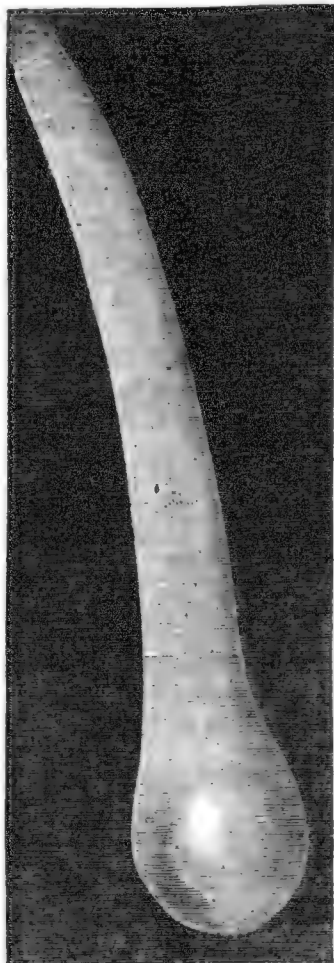


THE GREAT COMET OF 1744.

come to characteristics still more peculiar, it was absolutely *dry*; and it was faintly luminous. We are told that, "in the total absence of moonlight the light proceeding apparently from the fog was sufficient to render objects visible at distances of two or three hundred yards."

In 1831 appeared a similar fog. It also was dry. It commenced in the north of Africa on the 3rd of August, appeared throughout France on the 10th, in the United States on the 15th, and later in the month in China. It enfeebled, and in some places effaced, the light of the sun; and it was so luminous, that, while it prevailed, there was light enough at midnight to read print almost as small as any in this journal. Yet the stars were visible.

It has been thought that this fog was, in each case, simply the tail of a comet, then supposed to be passing over the earth. To this idea, however, there appears to be sufficient objections. With regard to the fog of 1831, it was neither continuous nor uniform. With regard to both it has been advanced, that the head of the comet, whose tail the fog was supposed to

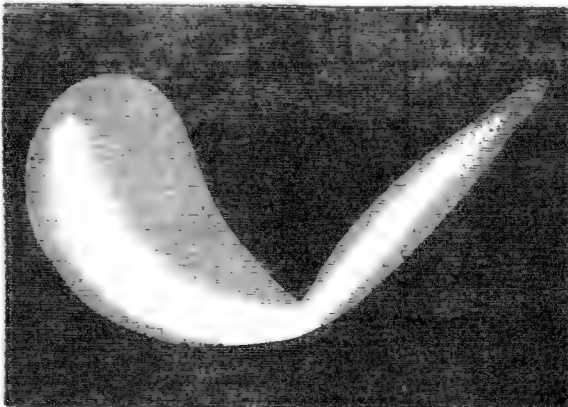


HALLEY'S COMET, OCTOBER 3, 1835.

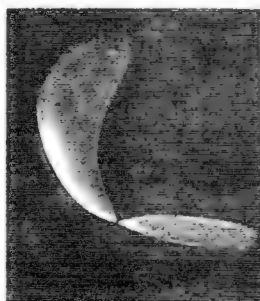
be, was not visible; which it must at some time have been, had it been present.

#### THE CONSEQUENCES OF A COLLISION WITH A COMET.

The consequences of a collision of the solid nucleus of a comet with the earth, are easy to be understood. Whenever, and in whatever direction the



HALLEY'S COMET, OCTOBER 9, 1835.

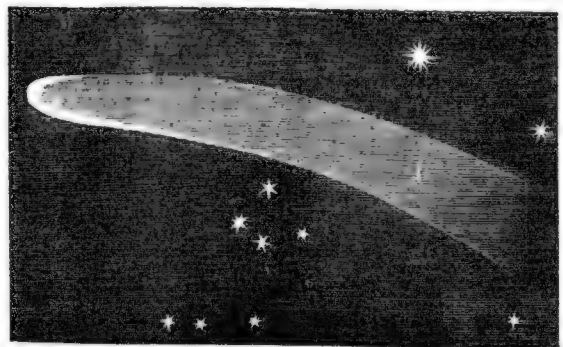


HALLEY'S COMET, OCT. 12, 1835.



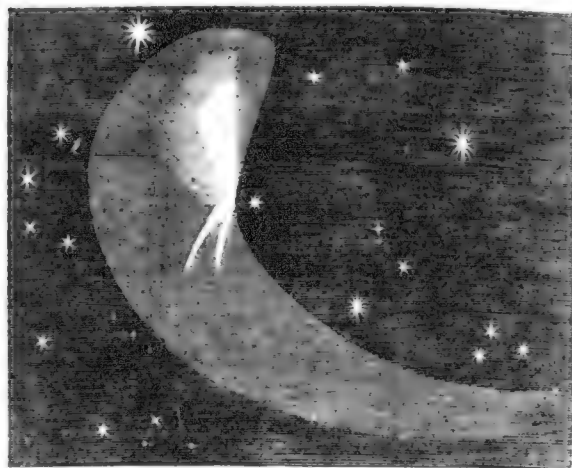
HALLEY'S COMET, OCT. 15, 1835.

comet struck this globe, it would have the effect either of retarding or accelerating its motion; and this would have an effect which Philosophy describes in these terms:—"Violent atmospheric commotions would ensue. The waters of the oceans and seas, thrown from their beds, would inundate the continents; rivers would change their directions, and either



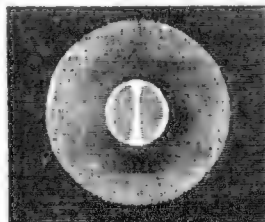
HALLEY'S COMET, OCTOBER 29 1835.

run into new channels or inundate the surrounding plains; lakes would desert their positions, and would flow in any channels open to them, or would flood the surrounding countries; animals would be precipitated against all solid objects near them with a force greater probably than that of a cannon ball; trees would be torn from their roots; buildings would be overthrown; and if the charge of motion were of a certain intensity, lofty mountain peaks would be cast into the adjacent valleys. It is evident that a general destruction of the organised world would be inevitable."

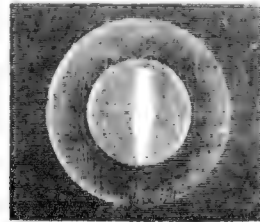


HALLEY'S COMET, NOVEMBER 5, 1835.

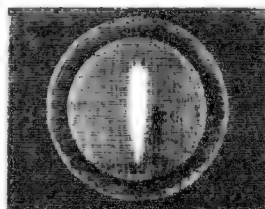
But then there are 281 millions of chances against any such an event; that is to say, we indirectly run an infinitely greater risk of destruction every time we get into a railway-carriage, or bestride a horse, or take the water, or send for a black draught, or take cucumber. One-half the earth's inhabitants every day run millions of chances of being destroyed by flood or earthquake, more than by the visitation of a comet once in a long period of years. The fear is absurd. It is the fear of being brained with a f other. That comets are ponderable, and have a certain weight and substance, is proved by the fact that they are subject to the laws of gravitation; but the immense bulk of these bodies (see the 18th paragraph of this article), compared with the fact that their near approach creates no perceptible influence on any of the planetary bodies, alone proves that the matter of which they are composed is a thousand times less dense than our own atmosphere; and if so, the passage of the earth through a comet would in all probability subject us to not the least inconvenience.



JANUARY 24.



JANUARY 25.



JANUARY 26.



JANUARY 27.

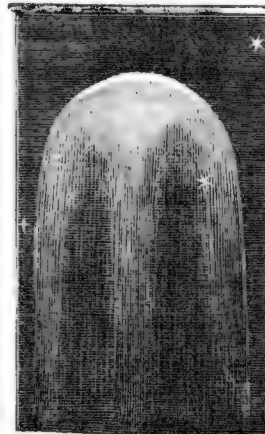
HALLEY'S COMET DEPARTING FROM THE SUN IN 1836.

#### THE COMING COMET.

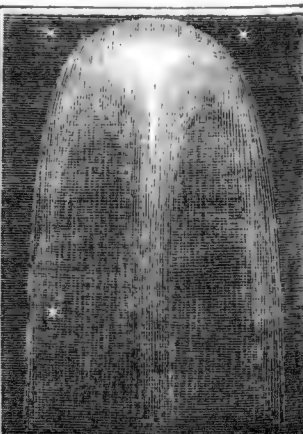
With a few words as to the expected comet we conclude. This is the comet which was first observed in 1264, and which re-appeared in 1556. Its appearance then was magnificent in the extreme. Its tail was of an enormous length, and according to the Chinese accounts, resembled a flaming sabre. There is no certainty as to the period of its return; it has been fixed by astronomers at some time between the present year and 1860.

#### OUR ILLUSTRATIONS.

The illustrations which accompany this paper, chiefly show the extraordinary changes which comets assume. The engraving of the comet of 1680 represents the popular idea of these bodies, and we find the form nearly repeated in Halley's comet as it appeared on October 3, 1835, and almost exactly the same comet appeared on the 29th of that month. The celebrated six-tailed comet of 1744 preserves the elements of the same figure. But the very different shapes which Halley's comet presented while visible from the earth (and which we have reproduced in this page), are not at all peculiar to that body; they only form one of many eccentricities common to comets generally. We have only to add, that, should any of our readers desire to pursue this very interesting subject into detail, they may do so to advantage by consulting Lardner's "Popular Astronomy" (second series), a work at once as lucid as learned, and moreover, very cheap. From it most of our illustrations have been copied by permission of the proprietors.

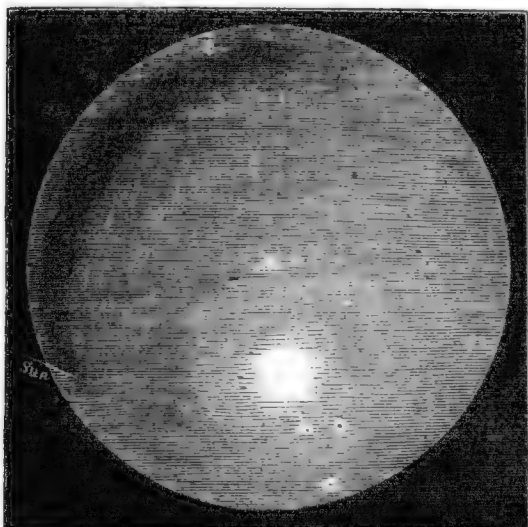


FEBRUARY 10.



FEBRUARY 23.

HALLEY'S COMET DEPARTING FROM THE SUN IN 1836.



ENCKE'S COMET APPROACHING THE SUN, NOVEMBER 7, 1823.



## THE NEW HOUSE OF COMMONS, NO. III.

## LIBERALS.



LORD ROBERT GROSVENOR (MIDDLESEX).  
FROM A RECENT SKETCH.



J. G. DODSON (E. SUSSEX).  
FROM A PHOTOGRAPH BY JOHN WATKINS.



HON. D. FORTESCUE (ANDOVER).  
FROM A PHOTOGRAPH BY JOHN WATKINS.



W. E. BAXTER (MONTROSE BURGHS).  
FROM A PHOTOGRAPH BY MAYALL.



W. HUTT (GATESHEAD).  
FROM A PHOTOGRAPH BY MAYALL.



JOHN BIGGS (LEICESTER).  
FROM A PHOTOGRAPH BY EASTHAM, OF MANCHESTER.



P. M'MAHON (WEXFORD COUNTY).  
FROM A PHOTOGRAPH BY JOHN WATKINS.



E. SALISBURY (CHESTER).  
FROM A PHOTOGRAPH BY JOHN WATKINS.

## CONSERVATIVES.



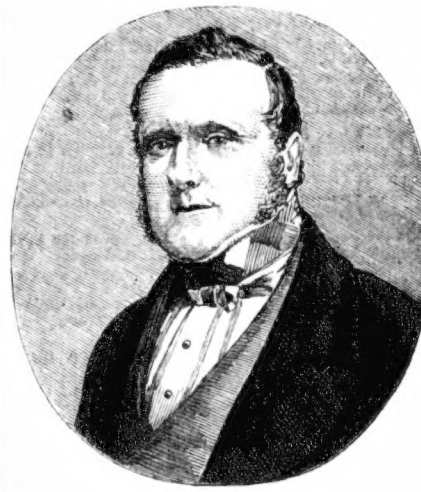
LORD JOHN MANNERS (N. LEICESTERSHIRE).  
FROM A PHOTOGRAPH BY MAYALL.



G. BENTINCK (W. NORFOLK).  
FROM A PHOTOGRAPH BY MAYALL.



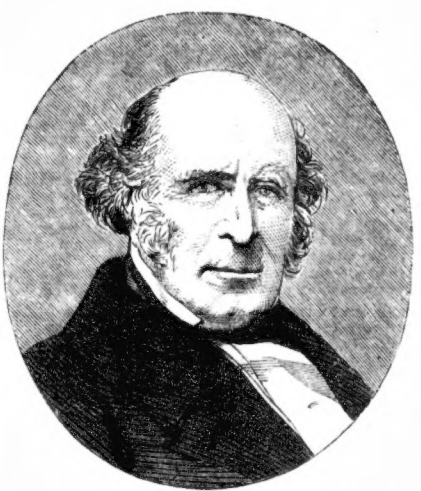
SIR J. ELPHINSTONE, BART. (PORTSMOUTH).  
FROM A PHOTOGRAPH BY USDELL, PORTSMOUTH.



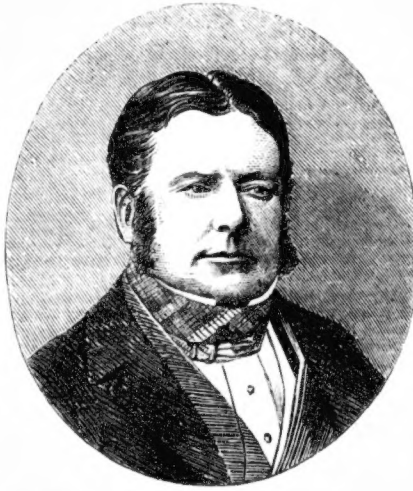
J. LAURIE (BARNSTAPLE).  
FROM A PHOTOGRAPH BY JOHN WATKINS.



J. B. HORSFALL (LIVERPOOL).  
FROM A PHOTOGRAPH.



W. MILES (E. SOMERSETSHIRE).  
FROM A PHOTOGRAPH BY MAYALL.



E. ALDERMAN COPELAND (STOKE-ON-TRENT).  
FROM A PHOTOGRAPH BY JOHN WATKINS.



SIR F. SMITH (CHATHAM).  
FROM A PHOTOGRAPH BY MAYALL.



## THE NEW PARLIAMENT.—(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 343.)—The new Members are indicated thus (\*).

**GALWAY, Viscount (E. Retford)**, an Irish Peer, and brother-in-law of Mr. R. M. Milnes, M.P., was born 1805. Is a follower of Lord Derby, and was a Lord in Waiting under his ministry in 1852. He is in favour of religious education, and voted against Lord Palmerston on the China question.

**GROVER, Edward Auchmuty (Beverley)**, was born 1817, and educated at Trinity Coll., Dublin. Is a magis, for Middlesex and Westminster, and a barrister of the N. Circuit; unsuccessfully contested Canterbury in 1854. He is a Liberal Conservative, but ready to give a general support to the present Government.

**GLYN, George Grenfell (Shaftesbury)**, eldest son of G. C. Glyn, Esq., M.P. for Kendal, by a daughter of the late P. Grenfell, Esq., was born 1824, and married, 1848, Georgiana, daughter of the Rev. G. Tufnell. He is a Liberal and supporter of Lord Palmerston; in favour of electoral reform, the ballot, and extended suffrage.

**GLYN, George Carr (Kendal)**, brother of Sir R. C. Glyn, Bart., was born 1797, and married, 1823, Marianne, daughter of the late P. Grenfell, Esq.; was educated at Westminster, and is a commissioner of lieutenancy for London; was formerly chairman of the N. W. Railway. He is a Liberal; in favour of wide reform in church and state, the extension of the suffrage, secular education, the abolition of church-rates, and all measures of benefit to the working classes; voted for Mr. Locke King's motion, and against that of Mr. Cobden on China.

**GODDARD, Ambrose Lethbridge (Cricklade)**, son of A. Goddard, Esq., formerly M.P. for the borough, was born 1819, and married, 1847, Charlotte, daughter of E. A. Sandford, Esq., late M.P. for Somerset; was educated at Harrow and at St. John's Coll., Cambridge. Is a capt. of the Wilts Yeomanry. He is a Conservative; opposed to the removal of Jewish disabilities, and in favour of church-rates and the Maynooth grant; supported Mr. Cobden's motion.

**GODFRICH, Viscount (W. Riding of Yorkshire)**, eldest son of the Earl of Ripon, was born 1827, and married, 1851, Henrietta, daughter of H. Vyner, Esq.; was educated at Harrow. Is a dep. lieut. for Lincoln, and a capt. of the W. Riding Yeomanry. Set for Hull and Huddersfield in the last Parliament. He is a Liberal; in favour of free trade, ballot, extension of the suffrage, secular education, abolition of church-rates, and all measures of benefit to the working classes; voted with Mr. Cobden on the China question.

**GRACE, Oliver Dowell John (Co. Roscommon)**, was born 1792, and married, 1819, Frances, daughter of Sir B. Nagle, Bart.; was educated at Maynooth. Is a magis, and dep. lieut., and high sheriff of Roscommon. He is one of the Roman Catholic Independent party; in favour of tenant right and Locke King's motion, but opposed to repeal; supported Ministers on the China question.

**GRAHAM, Rt. Hon. Sir James Robert George, Bart. (Carlisle)**, was born 1793, and married, 1819, Fanny, daughter of Sir James Campbell, Bart.; was educated at Westminster School. Has sat for Hull, Carlisle, E. Cumberland, Pembroke, Dorchester, and Ripon from 1818 to the present time; formerly held the posts of First Lord of the Admiralty and Home Secretary, but withdrew from Earl Grey's ministry, together with Lord Stanley, now Earl of Derby, and for many years has identified himself with the Conservative party; he was First Lord of the Admiralty again under Lord Aberdeen; supported Mr. Locke King's motion, and also Mr. Cobden's resolutions on China.

**GRAY, William (Bolton)**, was born 1814. Is a magis, for Lancashire, a capt. of the 4th Lancashire Militia, and a manufacturer near Bolton, of which town he has been mayor. He is a Conservative, in favour of national religious education, and will give Lord Derby an independent support.

**GREAVES, Edward (Warwick)**, the representative of an old Worcestershire family, was born 1808, and married, 1828, Anne, daughter of J. Robbins, Esq. (widow of T. Ward, Esq.). Is a banker at Warwick, and a dep. lieut. for the county, of which he is also treasurer. He is a Conservative, and opposed to the Maynooth grant; was absent from the division on the China question.

**GREENALL, Gilbert (Warrington)**, a glass manufacturer in the borough, brother of the late P. Greenall, Esq., who formerly sat for Wigan, was born 1806, and married, 1836, Mary, daughter of D. Claghton, Esq. Is a dep. lieut. for Lancashire and Cheshire. He is a Conservative, opposed to the Maynooth grant and removal of Jewish disabilities; voted for Locke King's motion, and with Mr. Cobden on the China question.

**GREENE, John (Co. Kilkenny)**, was born 1815, and was formerly captain in the 7th Dragoon Guards. He is a Member of the Independent Opposition; is in favour of repeal, of civil and religious liberty, Locke King's motion, and tenant right in Ireland; opposed Ministers on the China question.

**GREENWOOD, John (Ripon)**, son of F. Greenwood, Esq., was born 1829, and married, 1852, Louisa, daughter of N. C. Barnardiston, Esq.; was educated at Eton and Christ Church, Oxford. Is a dep. lieut. for the W. Riding, and captain of the W. Riding Yeomanry Cavalry. He is a Liberal, and will vote in favour of extended suffrage.

**GREEN, Samuel M. (Co. Londonderry)**, son of the Rev. T. Green, was born 1809, and married, 1845, Marion, daughter of J. M'Corm, Esq.; was educated at Coleraine and Glasgow University. Is a member of the Irish bar. He is a decided and independent Liberal; in favour of religious equality, ballot, and tenant right. Unsuccessfully contested the county in February last.

**GREGORY, William Henry (Co. Galway)**, son of W. Gregory, Esq., and grandson of the late Right Hon. W. Gregory, was born 1817, and is a magis and dep. lieut. for the county of Galway; was formerly Member for Dublin city as a Conservative. He is now a general supporter of Lord Palmerston, and will vote for Maynooth grant, a modification of tenant right, and such measures as will benefit Ireland.

**GREGSON, Samuel (Lancaster)**, was born 1795, and married, 1829, Ellen, daughter of M. Gregson, Esq. Is a London merchant, and chairman of the East India and China Association. He is a Liberal, and has voted for the ballot, extended suffrage, Locke King's motion, and removal of Jewish disabilities; supported Ministers on the China question.

**GREENFELL, Charles William (Windsor)**, eldest son of C. P. Grenfell, Esq., M.P. for Preston, was born 1823, and married, 1852, Georgiana, daughter of the Right Hon. W. S. Lisle, Esq.; was educated at Harrow, and at Christ Church, Oxford, and formerly sat for Sandwich. He is in favour of the ballot, extended suffrage, Parliamentary reform, and Locke King's motion; voted against Mr. Cobden's resolutions.

**GREENFELL, Charles Pascoe (Preston)**, son of the late P. Grenfell, Esq., M.P., and sister of C. W. Grenfell, Esq., M.P. for Windsor, was born 1792, and married, 1819, Georgiana, daughter of the late Earl of Selton; was educated at Harrow and Christ Church, Oxford. Is a copper merchant, a director of the Bank of England, and formerly represented the borough. A Liberal and supporter of Lord Palmerston; in favour of the ballot and extended suffrage.

**GREVILLE, Fulke Southwell (Co. Longford)**, was born 1821, and married, 1840, Rosa, daughter of the Marquis of Westminster. Is a dep. lieut. for Longford, vice-lieut. of Westmeath, and colonel of the Westmeath Militia. He is a Liberal; in favour of wide reform, the ballot, tenant right, and repeal; opposed to the Ecclesiastical Titles Bill, and to the withdrawal of the Maynooth grant; supported Ministers on the China question, and voted for Locke King's motion.

**GREY, Right Hon. Sir George Bart., G.C.B. (Morpeh)**, nephew of the second Earl Grey, was born 1790, and married, 1827, Sophia, daughter of the late bishop (Ryder) of Lichfield; graduated B.A. at Oriel Coll., Oxford, in 1821, as first class in classics. He is a dep. lieut. for Northumberland; has been Under-Secretary for the Colonies, Judge-Advocate-General 1839-41, and Home Secretary; has represented Devonport and Northumberland. He is opposed to the ballot and Mr. Locke King's motion, but in favour of a settlement of church-rates and admission of Jews; as one of the Ministry, he of course voted against Mr. Cobden's resolutions.

**GREY, Ralph William (Liskeard)**, a distant relative of Earl Grey's family, was born 1819, and was educated at Eton, and at Trin. Coll., Cambridge. He has been private secretary to the late Lord Sydneyham, Lord J. Russell, and Viscount Palmerston, and secretary to the Poor Law Board; formerly sat

for Tynemouth. He has voted for the admission of Jews and extended franchise; opposed Mr. Cobden's motion.

**\*GRAFFITH, Christopher Darby (Devizes)**, son of Gen. Griffith-Darby, was born 1805, and married, 1837, Arabella, daughter of the late E. F. Colston, Esq.; was educated at Eton and Christ Church, Oxford. Is a dep. lieut. for Bucks. He is a Liberal Conservative, unpledged, but will give Lord Palmerston an independent support.

**GROGAN, Edward (Dublin)**, the son of an Irish barrister, was born 1816, and graduated at Trin. Coll., Dublin. Is a member of the Irish bar. He is a strong Conservative, and is opposed to the Maynooth grant, the removal of Jewish disabilities, and Locke King's motion; voted for Mr. Cobden's resolutions.

**GROSVENOR, Lord Robert (Middlesex)**, brother of the Marquis of Westminster and of the Earl of Wilton, was born 1801, and married, 1831, Charlotte, daughter of the late Lord Coxley; was educated at Eton and Christ Church, Oxford. Has been Comptroller of the Household and Treasurer, and was formerly M.P. for Shaftesbury and for Chester. He is in favour of moderate reform, national education, a large extension of the suffrage, and Locke King's motion; voted with Mr. Cobden on the China question.

**GROSVENOR, Earl (Chester)**, eldest son of the Marquis of Westminster, was born 1825, and married, 1852, Constance, daughter of the second Duke of Sutherland; was educated at Eton, and at Balliol Coll., Oxford. Is captain in the Cheshire Yeomanry. He is in favour of Parliamentary reform and the Maynooth grant; was absent from the division on Mr. Cobden's motion.

**\*GURDON, Brampton (W. Norfolk)**, son of late T. T. Gurdon, Esq., and brother of J. Gurdon-Rebow, Esq., M.P., was born 1795, and married, 1828, Henrietta, daughter of the late Lord Colborne; was educated at Eton and Trin. Coll., Cambridge. Is a magis, and dep. lieut. for Norfolk. He is a Liberal, and will give Lord Palmerston an earnest and steady support.

**GURNEY, John Henry (Lynn Regis)**, son of the late J. Gurney, Esq., was born 1819, and married, 1846, Mary, daughter of R. H. Gurney, Esq. Is a banker at Norwich, and magis, and dep. lieut. for Norfolk. He is a Liberal Conservative, in favour of Locke King's motion, but opposed to the Maynooth grant and secular education; opposed Mr. Cobden's resolutions.

**\*GURNEY, Samuel (Penryn and Falmouth)**, son of the late S. Gurney, Esq., was born 1816, and married, 1837, Ellen, daughter of the late W. J. Reynolds, Esq. Is partner in the bank of Overend, Gurney, and Co., a member of the Society of Friends, and a magis, for Surrey. He is a Liberal, and an independent supporter of Lord Palmerston, but opposed to the war with China.

**\*HACKBLOCK, William (Reigate)**, son of the late W. Hackblock, Esq., of Clapton, was born 1808. Is a director of the Commercial Bank, and was formerly a merchant in the City. He is an independent Liberal; in favour of education, social progress, civil and religious liberty, economy, purity of election, and all sound liberal measures.

**HADDO, Lord (Aberdeenshire)**, eldest son of the Earl of Aberdeen, was born 1816, and married, 1840, Mary, daughter of G. Baillie, Esq.; was educated at Trin. Coll., Cambridge. He is in favour of Parliamentary reform, the Maynooth grant, and secular national education, but opposed to the ballot and Locke King's motion.

**HADFIELD, George (Sheffield)**, son of a merchant in that town, was born 1787, and married, 1814, Lydia, daughter of S. Pope, Esq. Was a solicitor in Manchester, and an active member of the Anti-Corn Law League. He is of Nonconformist principles, and is opposed to the principle of religious endowments; in favour of Mr. Locke King's motion, abolition of church-rates, of taxes on knowledge, and of Jewish disabilities; voted for Mr. Cobden's resolutions.

**HALL, Right Hon. Sir Benjamin, Bart. (Marylebone)**, son of R. Hall, Esq., formerly M.P. for Monmouth, was born 1802, and married, 1823, Augusta, daughter of R. Waddington, Esq.; was educated at Westminster, and at Christ Church, Oxford. Is a magis, and dep. lieut. for Monmouthshire; was formerly M.P. for Monmouth, and has held the posts of President of the Board of Health, and Chief Commissioner of Public Works. He is in favour of free trade, the ballot, abolition of church-rates and religious disabilities, admission of Dissenters to Universities, and of sweeping church reforms; supported Ministers on the China question.

**HALL, John (Buckingham)**, was born 1800. Is a major-general in the army, and was formerly colonel in the 1st Life Guards. He is a strong Conservative, opposed to the Maynooth grant and removal of Jewish disabilities; voted with Mr. Cobden on the China question.

**HAMILTON, Right Hon. Lord Claude (Tyne)**, brother of the Marquis of Abercromby, was born 1813, and married, 1844, Elizabeth, daughter of the third Earl of Caryfort; was educated at Trin. Coll., Cambridge, and was Treasurer of the Household under Lord Derby in 1852. He is a Conservative, but in favour of free trade and moderate reform; voted against the Maynooth grant and Locke King's motion, but in favour of Mr. Cobden's resolutions on China.

**HAMILTON, George Alexander (Dublin University)**, was born 1802, and married, 1835, Amelia, daughter of the late J. Uthoff, Esq.; was educated at Rugby, and at Trin. Coll., Oxford. Was Financial Secretary to the Treasury under Lord Derby in 1853, and formerly contested the City of Dublin with Mr. D. O'Connell. He is in favour of Scriptural religious education, but opposed to the national system, to the Maynooth grant, and to Locke King's motion; supported Mr. Cobden's resolutions on China.

**HANBURY, Robert Jun. (Middlesex)**, son of R. Hanbury, Esq., was born 1823, and married, 1849, Caroline, daughter of Abel Smith, Esq., M.P. Is partner in the brewery of Truman, Hanbury, and Co. He is unpledged to any administration, but will afford Lord Palmerston a hearty support; is in favour of civil and religious liberty, extended franchise, the admission of Jews into Parliament, and religious but unsectarian education; and conditionally in favour of the ballot.

**\*HANDLEY, John (Newark)**, nephew of W. F. Handley, Esq., formerly M.P. for Newark, was born 1807, and educated at Eton, and Trin. Coll., Cambridge. Is a barrister-at-law, a dep. lieut. for Notts, and a banker at Newark. He is in favour of extended suffrage, and will give a general and independent support to Lord Palmerston.

**HANKEY, Thomson (Peterborough)**, eldest son of the late Thomson Hankey, Esq., was born 1805, and married, 1830, Apollonia, daughter of J. Alexander, Esq. Is a West India merchant, and director of the Bank of England, of which he has been governor. He is a Liberal; in favour of parliamentary and civil reform, and opposed to the withdrawal of the Maynooth grant; voted in favour of Locke King's motion, and with Ministers against Mr. Cobden's resolutions.

**HANMER, Sir John, Bart. (Pint District)**, was born 1809, and married, 1839, Georgiana, daughter of Sir G. Chetwynd, Bart.; was educated at Christ Church, Oxford. Was formerly M.P. for Shrewsbury and Hull. He is a Liberal Conservative, in favour of extended franchise and national education, but opposed to the ballot.

**HANCOCK, George Beauville (Oxfordshire)**, eldest son of the late Archbishop (Verdon) of York, and cousin of Lord Vernon, was born 1785, and married, first, 1815, Elizabeth, daughter of the second Earl of Lucas, second, 1846, Frances, daughter of J. Braman, Esq. (widow of the seventh Earl of Waldegrave); was educated at Christ Church, Oxford. Was formerly chaplain and commissary of the archdiocese of York, and sat for Lichfield from 1806 to 1830, when he was chosen for the county. He is a Liberal Conservative, and in favour of moderate reform, and Mr. Locke King's motion; supported Ministers against Mr. Cobden's resolutions.

**\*HARDCASTLE, Joseph Alfred (Bury St. Edmunds)**, was born 1815, and educated at Trinity Coll., Cambridge. Has been called to the bar at the Inner Temple. He is a Liberal, and an "independent" supporter of the Ministry; in favour of electoral reform, ballot, and extension of franchise; formerly sat for Colchester.

**HARDY, Gathorne (Leominster)**, son of late J. Hardy, Esq., M.P., was born 1814, and married, 1838, Jane, daughter of J. Orr, Esq.; was educated at Shrewsbury and at Oriel Coll., Ox-

ford. Is a barrister, and goes the N. Circuit. He is a Conservative, in favour of national religious education and moderate reform, but opposed to Locke King's motion.

**\*HARRIS, John Dove (Leicester)**, son of R. Harris, Esq., formerly M.P. for Leicester, was born 1809, and married, 1831, the eldest daughter of G. Shirley, Esq. He is a Liberal and Nonconformist; in favour of civil and religious liberty and abolition of church-rates.

**\*HASSARD, Michael Dobbyn (Waterford City)**, son of Mr. Richard Hassard, was born 1817, and married, 1846, Anne, daughter of the late Sir F. J. Hassard; was educated at Waterford and at Trin. Coll., Dublin. He is a Conservative, but will support the Irish Independent Opposition, by whose influence he was returned to Parliament.

**HASTIE, Archibald (Paisley)**, an East India agent in London, and brother of the late M.P. for Glasgow, was born 1791. He is in favour of the ballot, Locke King's motion, and excise and general administrative reform, but opposed to the Maynooth grant; supported Ministers against Mr. Cobden's motion.

**HATCHELL, John (Co. Wexford)**, son of Rt. Hon. John Hatchell, was born 1835, and educated at Rugby and at Trin. Coll., Dublin. Has been called to the Irish bar. He is a decided Liberal; in favour of civil and religious liberty, the Maynooth grant, and a comprehensive measure of tenant right.

**\*HAY, Lord John (Wick Burgh)**, son of the Marquis of Tweeddale, and brother of Lord Gifford, M.P., was born 1827. Is captain R.N. and served in the Baltic 1854-55. He is in favour of liberal measures and of Lord Palmerston's foreign and home policy.

**HAYES, Sir Edmund Samuel, Bart. (Donegal)**, was born 1806, and married, 1837, Emily, daughter of Lieut.-Gen. Hon. Sir H. Pakenham; was educated at Trin. Coll., Dublin. He is a Conservative, in favour of religious education, and opposed to the Maynooth grant and removal of Jewish disabilities; voted with Mr. Cobden on the China question.

**HAYTER, Lt. Hon. William Goodenough, Q.C. (Wells)**, was born 1793, and married, 1832, Ann, daughter of W. Pulsford, Esq.; was educated at Winchester and at Trin. Coll., Oxford. Is a barrister of Lincoln's Inn; was formerly Judge-Advocate-General, and is Joint-Secretary of the Treasury, which post he has held under three different administrations. He votes for reform, repeal of religious disabilities, and in favour of the Maynooth grant; supported Ministers against Mr. Cobden's motion.

**HEADLAM, Thomas Emerson, Q.C. (Newcastle-on-Tyne)**, son of the late Archbishop Headlam, was born 1813, and married, 1851, Ellen, daughter of Major Van Straubenzee, R.A.; was educated at Shrewsbury and Trin. Coll., Cambridge. Is a barrister of the Inner Temple, and a dep. lieut. for the N. Riding of Yorkshire and for Northumberland. He is a Liberal; in favour of the ballot, extended suffrage, Locke King's motion, and admission of Jews; supported Government on Mr. Cobden's resolutions.

**HEARD, John Isaac (Kingsley)**, a native of the borough, was born 1788, and married, 1812, Mary, daughter of the late H. Wilkes, Esq.; is a graduate of Peterhouse, Cambridge, and a magis for the county of Cork, of which he has been high sheriff. He is a Liberal; in favour of moderate reform, extension of the suffrage, and the Maynooth grant; voted against Mr. Cobden's motion.

**HEATHCOTE, John (Tiverton)**, is a lace manufacturer, formerly at Longborough, but at Tiverton since 1816; is a magis for Devon. He is an advanced Liberal; in favour of extended reform, equalised taxation and suffrage, and secular education; did not vote on the Maynooth question, but supported the Government against Mr. Cobden's motion.

**HEATHCOTE, the Hon. Gilbert Henry (Bartholomew)**, eldest son of Lord Aveland, was born 1828, and educated at Harrow and at Trin. Coll., Cambridge. Sat for Boston for a short time. He is a Liberal; in favour of constitutional freedom, and supported Lord Palmerston on the China question.

**\*HEATHCOTE, John Moyer (Hants)**, son of J. Heathcote, Esq., was born 1809, and married, 1833, Emily, daughter of late Lord Colborne; was educated at Eton, and at St. John's Coll., Cambridge. He is a Liberal, in favour of civil and religious liberty, social improvement, reform in civil and military services, and well-considered economy in every department of the State. (Elected by a double return with Mr. Fellows.)

**HEATHCOTE, Sir William, Bart. (Oxford University)**, was born 1801, and married, first, 1825, Caroline, daughter of the first Lord Arden, second, 1841, Selina, daughter of E. J. Shirley, Esq., M.P.; was educated at Winchester and Oriel Coll., Oxford. Is a magis and dep. lieut. for Hants, and was for many years M.P. for Hants. He is a Liberal Conservative, a firm friend of the Established Church, but in favour of moderate and safe reform; opposed to the admission of Jews and to Locke King's motion; supported Mr. Cobden on the China question.

**HENCHY, David O'Connor (Co. Kildare)**, was born 1810, and married, 1850, Elizabeth, daughter of the late Sir J. Burke, Bart.; was educated at Oriel and Trin. Coll., Dublin. He is a Roman Catholic, and one of the Irish Independent party; is in favour of tenant right, and supported Ministers on the China question.

**HENEAGE, George Fieschi (Lincoln)**, eldest son of the late G. R. Heneage, Esq., of Hainton, an old Roman Catholic family, was born 1800, and married, 1833, Frances, daughter of M. Tasburgh, Esq.; was educated at Trin. Coll., Cambridge. Is a magis, and dep. lieut. for Lincoln, and was formerly member for Great Grimsby. He is of moderate Liberal opinions; in favour of national religious education; is not prepared to withdraw the Maynooth grant; and voted against Mr. Locke King's motion and Mr. Cobden's resolutions.

**HENLEY, Rt. Hon. Joseph Warner (Oxfordshire)**, was born 1793, and married, 1817, a daughter of J. Fane, Esq.; graduated at Magdalen Coll., Oxford. Is a magis, and dep. lieut. for Oxford, and was President of the Board of Trade in Lord Derby's Ministry. He is a Conservative, and firm supporter of the Established Church; opposed to the Maynooth grant, and Locke King's motion, but in favour of national religious education; voted for Mr. Cobden's resolutions.

**HENNIKER, Lord (E. Suffolk)**, an Irish Peer, was born 1801, and married, 1837, Anna, sister of Sir E. Kerrison, Bart.; was educated at Eton, and St. John's Coll., Cambridge. Is a barrister-at-law, and a dep. lieut. for Suffolk. He is a Liberal Conservative, in favour of moderate reform and progress; opposed to the ballot and abolition of church-rates.

**HERRERT, Henry Arthur (Co. Kerry)**, lord-lieut. and custos rotul. of Kerry, was born 1815, and married, 1837, Mary, daughter of J. Balfour, Esq.; was educated at Trin. Coll., Cambridge. He is a Liberal Conservative, and in favour of moderate reform; supports the Maynooth grant, and voted against Mr. Cobden's resolutions. He has just been appointed Secretary for Ireland.

**HERRERT, Hon. Percy Egerton, C.B. (Ludlow)**, brother and heir-presumptive to the Earl of Powis, was born 1822, and educated at Eton and Sandhurst. Is a lieut. colonel unattached, and an aide-de-camp to the Queen; served in the Crimea as assistant-quartermaster-general to the forces, and was wounded at the battle of the Alma. He is a Conservative, opposed to the Maynooth grant, to the repeal of Jewish disabilities, and Mr. Locke King's motion; voted for Mr. Cobden's resolutions.

**HERRERT, Rt. Hon. Sidney (S. Wilt)**, next brother and heir-presumptive to the Earl of Pembroke, was born 1810, and married, 1846, Elizabeth, daughter of Major Gen. A. Court; was educated at Harrow and at Oriel Coll., Oxford. Has been Secretary to the Admiralty and Secretary-at-War, and is a dep. lieut. for the counties of Salop, Wilts, and Dublin. He is a Liberal Conservative; in favour of civil and religious liberty, and moderate reforms, but opposed to Mr. Locke King's motion; is one of the leaders of the Peelite party; voted against Ministers on the China question.

**HILDYARD, Robert Charles, Q.C. (Whitehaven)**, son of a Yorkshire clergyman, was born 1800, and educated at Oakham and at Catherine Hall, Cambridge. Is a barrister of the Inner Temple; formerly went the N. Circuit, and was counsel to the Duke of Lancaster. He is in favour of free trade, and opposed to the Maynooth grant and Locke King's motion; voted for Mr. Cobden's resolutions.

**HILL, Lord Arthur Edwin (Downshire)**, brother of the Marquis of Downshire, was born 1819, and educated at Eton and

Balliol Coll., Oxford. Is lieut.-col. of the Downshire Militia. He is a Conservative, and opposed to the admission of Jews; voted against the Maynooth grant, and supported Mr. Cobden's motion.

**\*HILL, Hon. Rowland Clegg (N. Salop)**, eldest son of Viscount Hill, was born 1833, and educated at Eton. Is a dep. lieut. for Salop, and lieut. of the Salop Yeomanry. He is a Liberal Conservative, and professes himself a sincere and unflinching advocate of the Protestant faith, a firm supporter of the constitution, and an enemy to abuses at home and abroad.

**HINDLEY, Charles (Ashton under-Lyne)**, was born 1840, and married, 1850, a daughter of R. Fort, Esq. He is a Nonconformist; is in favour of wide reform, the ballot, Locke King's motion, and perfect religious equality; and opposed to religious endowments and church-rates; voted against the Maynooth grant, and abstained from voting on the China question.

**\*HOBSON, Kirkman Daniel (Bridport)**, was born 1814, and married, 1843, Frances, daughter of J. L. Butler, Esq. Is a merchant in the City, a director of the Bank of England, and a commissioner of the Public Loan Office. He is a Liberal, in favour of the ballot, extended franchise, and the abolition of church-rates.

**\*HOBSON, William Nicholson (Carlisle)**, son of late W. Hodgson, Esq., was born 1801, and married, 1831, Mary, daughter of T. Irwin, Esq. Is a dep. lieut. for Cumberland, and formerly sat for Carlisle. He is a Conservative, but in favour of moderate and progressive reform, economy, and reduced taxation.

**HOLFORD, Robert Steyner (E. Gloucestershire)**, son of the late G. P. Holford, Esq., of Westbury, was born 1808, and married, 1854, Mary, daughter of Major-General Lindsay; was educated at Harrow and Oriel Coll., Oxford. Is a magis, and dep. lieut. for Gloucestershire and a magis, for Wilts, and one of the wealthiest commoners of England. He is opposed to Locke King's motion, the Maynooth grant, and removal of Jewish disabilities; voted for Mr. Cobden's motion on China.

**HOLLAND, Edward (Evesham)** was born 1800, and married, 1857, Frances, daughter of S. Christian, Esq. Is a magis, and dep. lieut. for Gloucester and Worcester, and formerly sat for Worcestershire. He is a Liberal; in favour of extension of the franchise, admission of Jews, and the spread of national education.

**\*HOPK, Alexander James Baresford (Maidstone)**, son of the late T. Hope, Esq., was born 1820, and married, 1842, Mildred, daughter of the Marquis of Salisbury; was educated at Harrow, and Trin. Coll., Cambridge, and is honorary D.C.L. of Oxford. He is a Liberal Conservative, a sincere Churchman, though advocating the fullest religious toleration and the denominational principle in education; opposed to the income tax, and to abolition of free suffrage by birth and servitude; in favour of the Maynooth grant.

**\*HOPWOOD, John Turner (Clithorne)**, son of R. Hopwood, Esq., was born 1829, and educated at Trin. Coll., Oxford. Is a dep. lieut. for Lancashire, and a barrister of Lincoln's Inn, and goes the Northern Circuit. He is a Conservative, and opposed to the Maynooth grant; supported Lord Palmerston on the China question.

**\*HORNBY, William Henry (Blackburn)**, son of D. Hornby, Esq., and brother of John Hornby, Esq., late M.P. for Blackburn, was born 1805, and married, 1831, Margaret, daughter and sole heir of E. Birley, Esq. Is a magis for Lancashire. He is a Conservative, but unpledged; will give Lord Derby's policy a general but discriminating support.

**HORSFALL, Thomas Berry (Liverpool)**, son of a Liverpool merchant, was born 1805, and married, first, 1834, Jane, daughter of the late P. E. Marsh, Esq., second, 1847, Mary, daughter of the late E. S. Cox, Esq. Is a merchant at Liverpool, of which he has been mayor, and was the first president of Liverpool Chamber of Commerce. He is a Conservative, and opposed to the Maynooth grant, the income-tax, and Mr. Locke King's motion; in favour of moderate, legal, parliamentary, and state reform; supported Ministers on Mr. Cobden's motion on China.

**HORSMAN, Right Hon. Edward (Stroud)**, late chief secretary for Ireland, a nephew of the Earl of Stair, was born 1807, and married, 1841, Charlotte, daughter of the late J. C. Ramsden, Esq., M.P.; was educated at Rugby. Is an advocate at the Scottish bar; formerly sat for Cockermouth, and has been a lord of the Treasury. He is in favour of the ballot, church reform, the Maynooth grant, removal of taxes on knowledge, and Locke King's motion; supported Ministers on Mr. Cobden's resolutions.

**HOTHAM, Lord (G. Riding of Yorkshire)**, an Irish peer, was born 1797; is a major-general on half-pay unattached; served in the Peninsula and at Waterloo; is a magis, and dep. lieut. for the E. Riding, and formerly sat for Leominster. He is a Protectionist and Protestant, and opposed to the Maynooth grant; voted for Mr. Cobden's motion.

**HOWARD, Lord Edward George Fitzalan (Arun del)**, next brother of the Duke of Norfolk, was born 1818, and married, 1851, Augusta, daughter of Hon. G. Talbot; was educated at Trinity Coll., Cambridge. Has been vice-chamberlain of the Household; and formerly sat for Horsham. He is a Liberal, a Roman Catholic, in favour of the Maynooth grant and civil and religious liberty; voted against Mr. Cobden's motion on China.

**HOWARD, Hon. Charles Wentworth George (E. Cumberland)**, brother of the Earl of Carlisle, was born 1814, and married, 1842, Mary, daughter of Lord Wensleydale; was educated at Eton and Trinity Coll., Cambridge. He is a Liberal, opposed to the ballot, though in favour of the Maynooth grant, the admission of Jews, and Locke King's motion; supported Ministers on the China question.

**HENDERSON, George (Sunderland)**, was born 1800, and married 1832, Elizabeth, daughter of J. Nicholson, Esq. Is a magis, for Yorkshire and Durham, and chairman of the Sunderland Dock Company; has been director of various railways, and three times lord mayor of York. He is opposed to extended franchise, ballot, and admission of Jews; did not vote on the China question.

**HUGGESS, see Knatchbull.**

**HUGHES, William Bulkeley (Carnarvon)**, son of the late Sir W. B. Hughes, was born 1797, and married, 1825, Elizabeth, daughter of J. Neesham, Esq. Is a barrister-at-law, and formerly went the Oxford Circuit. He is a Liberal Conservative, opposed to the withdrawal of the Maynooth grant and to Locke King's motion; abstained from voting on the China question.

**\*HUME, William Wentworth Fitz William (Wicklow)**, son of Mr. W. Hume, many years M.P. for Wicklow, was born 1815, and married, 1839, Margaret, daughter of the late R. Chandler, Esq., M.P. Is a magis, and dep. lieut. for Wicklow, of which he has been high-sheriff. He is a Liberal Conservative, opposed to the tenant right league, but in favour of a modified tenant right, and is not prepared to withdraw the Maynooth grant; supported Mr. Cobden's motion.

**HUTT, William (Gateshead)**, was born 1803, and married, 1831, Mary, daughter of J. Milner, Esq., and widow of tenth Earl of Strathmore; is a graduate of Trinity Coll., Cambridge. Was formerly in the navy, and at one time sat for Hull. He is a Liberal, and in favour of reform, the ballot, Locke King's motion, and secular education; voted against Mr. Cobden's resolutions on China.



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